Dear Secretary-General,

It is with pleasure that I herewith enclose the report of my activities between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007 as your Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace.

Following the International Year of Sport and Physical Education (IYSPE 2005), the reporting period focused on efforts to build on the momentum of the International Year. Activities included continued efforts to more fully integrate sport in the development agenda as a tool to assist in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. A particular focus has been made on the use of sport in peace building initiatives in cooperation with the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the International Olympic Committee.

During the reporting period, a 420-page book was published outlining activities undertaken around the world commemorating IYSPE 2005. It is evident that there has been much progress made in moving the United Nations system and its partners towards the more effective and systematic use of sport as a means to promote development and peace.

Thanks to the continued support of the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), it has been possible to run my offices both in Geneva and New York and to visit and encourage initiatives linking sport with education, health, development and peace throughout the world.

I look forward to receiving your support and leadership in ensuring that sport for development and peace will remain on the agenda of the United Nations and further contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Please accept, Dear Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Adolf Ogi
Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
UNHQ New York
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

Annual Report to the United Nations Secretary-General

Period considered: 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007

by Mr. Adolf Ogi

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

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1. Introduction

The period from 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007 was a period of intense follow-up activities to the International Year of Sport and Physical Education (IYSPE 2005). These activities built on the momentum of the Year with the intention of more fully integrating sport in the development agenda and accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and in peace building, a process that has the unanimous support of Member States, as reflected in General Assembly Resolution 61/10.

During the reporting period, a 423-page book was published outlining activities undertaken around the world commemorating IYSPE 2005. There has been much progress made in moving the UN system and its partners towards the more effective and systematic use of sport as a means to promote development and peace.

Particular focus has been made on the role of sport as part of the peace-building process. Sporting programmes were launched in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia in partnership with the UN Peacekeeping Missions in these countries and with the support of the International Olympic Committee (IOC); programmes which have illustrated the effectiveness and power of using sport as a tool in post-conflict regions.

A Strategy Development Process is currently being undertaken to recommend the future institutional set-up and orientation of the Office of your Special Adviser.

2. Reporting on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005

2.1. Closing Ceremony of the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005

On 3 April 2006, the official closing ceremony for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education (IYSPE 2005) was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 3 April 2006. A Report on IYSPE 2005 was presented to the former United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan and the former President of the General Assembly H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson at an event attended by over 500 representatives of governments, the UN system and the world of sports. Statements were made by the Ministers of Sport from Tunisia and the Russian Federation, the Ambassadors of Chile and China as well as world class athletes including world No. 1 tennis player Roger Federer, marathon runner Tegla Loroupe, former Chilean football star Elias Figuerca and gold medal Paralympian Katrina Webb.

The Report on IYSPE 2005 presented on the 3 April, a 23 page document, highlighted the numerous activities undertaken during 2005 including the launching of thousands of initiatives and many conferences to strengthen the role of sport as a means of achieving the internationally identified development goals, including the MDGs.

2.2. Final Report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005

The aim of the Final Report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 was to serve as the written legacy of the international mobilization created by the commemoration of IYSPE 2005. The colourful and reader-friendly 423-page publication provided detailed coverage of initiatives during IYSPE 2005 using sport and physical education to promote education, health, development and peace. The publication also included a DVD with examples from eight countries documenting sport for development and peace in action. The book was published (3,000 copies) by the UNOG Publishing Service in time for the 61st session of the United Nations General Assembly and was launched in New York on 3 November 2006. The publication was then widely disseminated to all partners mentioned in the book as well as other key actors in sport for development and peace.
Reporting on IYSPE 2005 has shown that the platform granted by the International Year was actively used by stakeholders to accomplish specific targets such as those concerning poverty reduction, education, gender equality and HIV/AIDS. Sport and physical education were recognized for the important role they play in improving public health and how sport can bridge social, religious, racial and gender divides, hence contributing to lasting peace.

The final report has become a valuable resource as a compendium of global activities and strategies on the use of sport for development and peace by governments, the UN system, sports organizations, NGOs, academia, the media and many other partners.

3. United Nations General Assembly support for Sport for Development and Peace

3.1 Secretary-General’s Report to the General Assembly

United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/9 of 3 November 2005, requested the Secretary-General to elaborate an action plan that would expand and strengthen United Nations partnerships with Governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector. With preparation undertaken by my office, on 3 November 2006, the General Assembly considered the report and action plan of the Secretary-General (A/61/373) under agenda item 49: Sport for Development and Peace. The report reviews the achievements of IYSPE 2005, and the broad range of activities, initiatives and networking carried out in countries worldwide. It also describes activities by Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to build on the momentum generated by the International Year.

The action plan is based on an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace. It aims to encourage the United Nations and its partners to move from awareness to greater implementation and action over the next three years. The action plan includes five main programme thrusts aimed at: (1) developing a common global policy framework on sport for development and peace; (2) the integration and mainstreaming of sport in development and peace oriented policies and programmes; (3) promoting innovative funding arrangements and partnerships; (4) strengthening the evidence base through research, monitoring and evaluation; and 5) communication and advocacy for development and peace. This plan will be executed in partnership with Member States, sports organizations, the private sector, media and NGOs.

3.2 United Nations General Assembly Resolution

On 3 November 2006, the General Assembly adopted resolution 61/10. The resolution included adoption of the action plan on sport for development and peace presented in the report by the Secretary-General (A/61/373). The Resolution invites Member States and sports organizations to further promote sport and physical education to help achieve the MDGs, and develop sports programmes and provide voluntary contributions for activities of the offices of the Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace. The Resolution also:

“Encourages the Secretary-General to maintain the mandate of Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace and to provide guidance on the institutional future of sport for development and peace within the United Nations system” (para. 7).

and

“Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution and on progress at the national, regional and international levels to encourage policies and best practices related to sport for development and peace, under the item entitled “Sport for peace and development” (para. 9).
Therefore, as your Special Adviser, a Strategy Development Process is currently being undertaken to assist in your determination of the institutional set-up of sport for development and peace within the United Nations system.

4. Partnerships and Initiatives

4.1 Initiatives of Member States

Support to sport for development and peace by Member States was reaffirmed by the unanimous adoption of General Assembly Resolution 61/10. Building on the momentum of IYSPE 2005, Member States have continued initiatives and have established national policies or strategies that advance sport for development and peace. Support and guidance has been provided to ensure that initiatives are coordinated, particularly as regards the United Nations representatives in the country concerned.

In July 2006, a note verbale from the Secretary-General was circulated to Member States requesting information on lessons learned from IYSPE 2005, obstacles encountered in national efforts to implement sport for development and peace initiatives, and how sport-related activities have been incorporated into strategies to achieve the MDGs and difficulties encountered. Numerous countries broadly endorsed the role of sport in fostering development.

4.2 Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace

Initiated in January 2005 amongst permanent representatives to the United Nations in New York, and with Switzerland and Tunisia as Chairpersons, the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace has continued its regular meetings as an intergovernmental platform aiming to encourage Member States to integrate sport actively into their international cooperation and development policies through the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions. The open-ended group has expanded to include 28 Member States.

4.3 United Nations Goodwill Ambassadors and Spokespersons

A number of UN agencies have continued to draw on the role of world-class athletes to achieve the objectives of the UN by appointing them as Goodwill Ambassadors. Following his term as spokesperson for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education, Roger Federer was appointed UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador on 3 April 2006. In 2007, Ronaldo Assis de Moreira, the Brazilian soccer star known as "Ronaldinho Gaúcho" was appointed as spokesperson for sport for development and peace.

4.4 United Nations Communications Group Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace

The United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace, an initiative of my Office, constitutes an essential forum to foster communication among United Nations agencies and other partners in order to make use of sport partnerships as part of their approach to a common development strategy. The New York Office convenes inter-agency meetings of the Working Group approximately fortnightly. The New York Office also produces the United Nations Sport Bulletin on behalf of the Working Group, providing regular updates on UN sport-related activities. In consultation with the Working Group, the New York Office drafted a business plan published in June 2005 aimed at providing the United Nations system with a blueprint for promoting more systematic and coherent use of sport for development and peace activities, especially in conjunction with efforts towards achieving the MDGs.
4.5 International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Convention and its Optional Protocol opened for signature by all Member States at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 30 March 2007. Article 30 of the Convention provides that State Parties shall take measures to promote participation of people with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities and disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, and to ensure children with disabilities have equal access to participation in recreation and sports. Together with Sir Phillip Craven, President of the International Paralympic Committee, a letter was sent to the Group of Friends on Sport for Development and Peace encouraging the signature and ratification of the Convention.

4.6 International Convention Against Doping in Sport

The International Convention Against Doping in Sport was unanimously adopted at the 33rd session of the General Conference of UNESCO in October 2005. The Convention entered into force on 1 February 2007. In particular, the Convention in its preamble is:

"Conscious that sport should play an important role in the protection of health, in moral, cultural and physical education and in promoting international understanding and peace,

Noting the need to encourage and coordinate international cooperation towards the elimination of doping in sport."

The Convention is a major achievement of the international community. With the continual encouragement of my office, UNESCO was able to realize the entry into force of a Convention aimed to promote the prevention of and the fight against doping in sport, with a view to its elimination.

4.7 Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group

The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group (SDP IWG), a four-year initiative engaging national governments, UN agencies and civil society, issued in June 2006 a preliminary report “Sport for Development and Peace: From Practice to Policy” examining diverse national approaches to Sport for Development and Peace. The report encourages its country members “to harness and integrate the tremendous power of sport into broader national development and peace strategies”. The preliminary report identified the need to position sport as a low-cost, high-impact tool to achieve development aims, in particular the MDGs. The final recommendations will be presented at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, encouraging Governments to address the issue of sport for development and peace when formulating national and international development policies. On 21 September 2006, the Bureau meeting of SDP IWG was held to further articulate the recommendations to be presented.

4.8 Global Communications and Public-Awareness Activities

The Final Report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 was disseminated to all partners at the end of 2006. This, as well as information tools such as the electronic sports bulletin (see 3.4), has contributed to enhanced and continued interest and initiatives using sport as a tool for education, health, development and peace. Internet based tools, such as the UN website (http://www.un.org/sport2005) and the Sport and Development International Platform (http://www.sportanddev.org) have provided a common working framework during the reporting period that facilitates international cooperation on sport for development and peace. Media attention has remained high during the reporting period. A brochure was published in February 2007 describing the key elements of the mandate of the Special Adviser as an advocate, catalyst and convener whose principal role is to encourage the use of sport as a means to promote development and peace.
5. Sport for Peace-Building and Conflict Prevention

Since the beginning of 2006, activities of my offices have reflected an increasing focus on the role of sport in peace-building activities. During a meeting in late January 2006 between the former Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Jacques Rogge and myself, it was agreed to develop sport and peace projects with the UN peacekeeping forces in Liberia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Côte d’Ivoire. I subsequently met with Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations to discuss the implementation of projects in the field.

5.1 Democratic Republic of the Congo: “Jeux de la Paix”

In the first initiative under this agreement, the IOC and the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) co-organized the “Jeux de la Paix” held under my auspices in August 2006. The aim of this “sport for all” event was to promote an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation following the first round of historic presidential and legislative elections in DRC on 30 July 2006 and prior to the announcement of the official election results on 20 August 2006. About 3000 inhabitants of the 24 communities of Kinshasa and 300 international peacekeepers (250 MONUC / 50 EUFOR) participated in various sport events, such as a marathon, football and basketball tournament as well as a cycling race. The events particularly targeted youth and women from disadvantaged communities and served as a rare platform for direct and spontaneous encounters between the local population and staff members of international organizations.

5.2 Liberia: “Sport for Peace” Programme

At the beginning of March 2007, I visited Liberia to launch a five-week nationwide “Sport for Peace” Programme held throughout Liberia’s 15 counties. The Programme was initiated by the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the IOC and my office. The IOC donated $76,000 worth of sports equipment for the Programme. The Programme was officially launched on Friday 2 March by the President of Liberia Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Mr. Alan Doss, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Coordinator of UN Operations in Liberia, the President of the Liberian National Olympic Committee and myself.

6. International Conferences and Events

As outlined in the attached Excerpt of Activities, I have participated in numerous international conferences and workshops which have further advanced efforts to reinforce sport as a tool for development and peace.

6.1 International Sports Events

My efforts in working with organizers of sporting events have continued, including during the XX Winter Olympic Games in Torino and the FIFA Football World Cup 2006 in Germany, of which the Final I attended with the former Secretary-General. UNICEF joined with FIFA in a “Unite for Children, Unite for Peace” campaign, which included public service announcements featuring leading football players and a manual for players and coaches designed to combat violence and discrimination, particularly against girls.

An international United Nations Launch of the Shanghai Special Olympics was held on 10 November 2006 by the Chinese Permanent Mission to the United Nations, in partnership with my Office in New York. It was a day long event in which almost a thousand high level guests participated to create awareness on the societal impact of the Special Olympics and the positive movement it has created.
During the reporting period, my office has initiated cooperation with the African Union (AU), in support of the International Year of African Football (IYoAF). This will lead to enhanced cooperation in light of the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa and the 50th Anniversary of the Confederation of the African Football (CAF). The Year is an all-Africa effort to make football and other sports geared towards, not just the global tournament, but also development and peace. My Office serves as one of four members of the Steering Committee to promote the implementation of some 15 developmental objectives called “Quick Wins”, which intend to develop a conceptual framework of sport policy in Africa, initiate campaigns for addressing socio-economic problems, health issues and drug abuse, and work for the rehabilitation of youth in conflict.

6.2 United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit

The Summit was organized by the New York office on behalf of the UN system and held from 29-31 October 2006 in New York, bringing together two youth leaders, one young man and one young woman between the ages of 18 and 30 years, from the 192 Member States of the United Nations. The Summit’s objectives followed result-oriented lines: to encourage young leaders to work towards the achievement of the MDGs, using sport as an entry point, by building a global network with governments, the UN system, the private sector, NGOs and the media. The Summit Declaration reinforced the message that youth are central to the international dialogue on eradicating poverty and cultivating a global culture of peace at the local, regional, national and international levels.

7. Conclusion

Sport for development and peace has been clearly established on the agenda of the United Nations. During the 61st session of the General Assembly, delegates of over 70 Member States co-sponsored Resolution 61/10 on “Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,” which endorses the three-year United Nations action plan.

Gratitude is expressed for the support provided to date by all stakeholders including the Secretary-General, Member States, sports federations, NGOs, governmental organizations and, in particular, the Swiss Government for their financial support to my office in Geneva and the in-kind support of the United Nations Office at Geneva, as well as UNDP for their support to my New York office until October 2006.

Yet, beyond the broad political support of Member States, the future institutionalization and mobilization of resources to maintain momentum in mainstreaming sport for development and peace within the United Nations system is crucial. I hope that sport will continue to play a vital role as a cost-effective tool for the United Nations in accelerating progress towards the MDGs by improving education and health for individuals and communities, promoting development, and building tolerance and peace.

Adolf Ogi
Under-Secretary-General
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

Attachment: Excerpt of activities

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Adolf Ogi
Under-Secretary-General
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

Attachment: Excerpt of activities
Excerpt of activities of Mr. Adolf Ogi in his capacity as Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace

**Period considered: 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activities/Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>New York, USA</td>
<td>Closing ceremony of the International Year of Sport and Physical Education, United Nations Headquarters</td>
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</table>
| 7-12 April | Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria, South Africa | - Keynote address at International Conference “Unlocking the Potential of Sport for Youth Wellness and Development” and Workshop “Partnership in Practice: Assessing Our Capacity to Deliver”
- Project visits: NGO SCORE (Cape Town) and Roger Federer Foundation/IMBEWU (Port Elizabeth)
- Meetings with President Thabo Mbeki and First Lady, former President Frederik W. De Klerk, FIFA 2010 World Cup Organising Committee President Danny Jordan and UN Resident Coordinator |
| 29 April   | Geneva, Switzerland             | Award of an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the International University Geneva and keynote speech at the Graduation Ceremony                                                                                                           |
| 8-13 May   | Tanzania                        | National Association of Black Journalists (USA) press trip with European journalists to cover anti-malaria initiatives, including sport’s role in promoting prevention and treatment
Organized by Mr. Ogi’s New York office                                                                                       |
| 11-14 May  | Kumamoto, Japan                 | Participation at “4th World Conference on Women and Sport”
- Meeting with the Rector of United Nations University Tokyo
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant                                                                 |
| 12 May     | Lausanne, Switzerland           | Board Meeting of the Olympic Truce Foundation                                                                                                                                  |
| 17 May     | Lausanne, Switzerland           | Opening speech at “Roundtable on World Religions, World Peace and an Ethical Planet”                                                                                               |
| 18-19 May  | Rome, Italy                     | General Assembly of the International Military Sports Council (CISM)
Mr. Ogi’s represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant                                                                                |
| 26 May     | Berlin, Germany                 | Keynote Address at Annual Conference of the German Sports Aid                                                                                                                      |
| 8 June     | Geneva, Switzerland             | Initiation of “Bike to Work” campaign                                                                                                                                             |
13 June
Stuttgart, Germany
Attendance at FIFA 2006 World Cup match Switzerland vs. France
Meeting with Mayor Dr. Wolfgang Schuster on activities of Stuttgart as “European Capital of Sport” in 2007

19-21 June
Vienna, Austria
UN European Youth Leadership Summit, hosted by the Government of Austria
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo, Director

21 June
Geneva, Switzerland
Bilateral meeting with Secretary-General

22-25 June
Dunedin, New Zealand
Keynote speech at Sport and Foreign Policy Conference
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Ingrid Beutler, Assistant

25 June
Providence, Rhode Island, USA
World Scholar Athlete Games
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo

28-29 June
Cairo, Egypt
Workshop on Arab Youth and the MDGs.
Ogi’s office represented by Richard Leonard, Communications Specialist

1 July
Geneva, Switzerland
Award of an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations and keynote speech at the Graduation Ceremony

9 July
Berlin, Germany
Attendance of FIFA World Cup Final with Secretary-General

19-22 July
Bangkok, Thailand
- Keynote Speech at the International University Sports Federation (FISU) Rectors’ Forum, at World University Presidents Summit
- Visit to Tham Hin refugee camp for assessment of sport programme
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant

19 July
Paris, France
Meeting of UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS)
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Ingrid Beutler, Assistant

23 May
Bad Ragaz, Switzerland
Attendance at 4th International Swiss U-16 Football Youth Cup, with participation of a mixed Israeli-Palestinian team

5-11 August
Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo
Opening of the ‘Jeux de la Paix’, co-organised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), under the auspices of the Special Adviser
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by David Winiger
11 August
New York, NY, USA
Appointment of football star Ronaldinho Gaúcho as United Nations Spokesperson on Sport for Development and Peace
Organized by Mr. Ogi’s New York office

12 August
Lenzerheide, Switzerland
Attendance at UNICEF charity event

13-18 August
Toronto, Canada
15th International AIDS Conference
Mr. Ogi’s Office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo

19-20 August
Indianapolis, Indiana, USA
National Association of Black Journalists, National Convention
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Dr. Dibril Diallo

11 September
Vienna, Austria
Keynote Address at Dialogue Forum “Sport and Development”

21 September
Bremen, Germany
Keynote Address at the Sport Ministers Conference of the German Federal States

23 September
Montreux, Switzerland
Attendance at Opening Ceremony of Paralympic Table Tennis World Cup

30 September
Cape Town, South Africa
Attendance at Homeless World Cup 2006
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Baptiste Planche, Assistant

30 September - 1 October
Rome, Italy
- Special Olympics European Youth Games
- Final Conference of E.SP.air on "non-formal education through open-air sports: a unique chance to prevent early school leaving", an EU sponsored pilot project
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant

9 October
Geneva, Switzerland
Presentation of the work of the Special Adviser to young peace leaders participating in a seminar organised by exCHANGE FOR PEACE
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant

17 October
Geneva, Switzerland
Keynote address 1st ILO Roundtable on Diabetes and Social Responsibility
Mr. Ogi’s office represented by Ingrid Beutler, Assistant

20-21 October
Moscow, Russia
Keynote address at Council of Europe Informal Meeting of European Ministers Responsible for Sport on “Future Pan-European Sports Co-operation”

29-31 October
United Nations, New York
Keynote address at United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit
Organized by Mr. Ogi’s New York office
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<tr>
<td>3 November</td>
<td>New York, NY, USA</td>
<td>United Nations General Assembly meeting on Sport for Development and Peace</td>
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<td>Guest Speaker at the Noon-Briefing of the Secretary-General's Spokesperson</td>
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<td>Launch of the &quot;Report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005&quot;</td>
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<td>5-10 November</td>
<td>Accra, Ghana and Dakar, Senegal</td>
<td>Fact-finding visit by tennis star Serena Williams</td>
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<td>Organized by Mr. Ogi's New York office</td>
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<td>10 November</td>
<td>United Nations, New York</td>
<td>Special Olympics for Social Harmony Forum held to preview the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Beijing, China</td>
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<td>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo, Director</td>
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<td>15-19 November</td>
<td>Toronto and Vancouver, Canada</td>
<td>Keynote Speeches at University of Toronto and University</td>
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<td>Visit of Right To Play programme “Learning to Play, Playing to Learn”</td>
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<td>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo, Director</td>
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<td>1 December</td>
<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
<td>Keynote address at the Global Forum for Sport and Environment, organised by UNEP and IOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 December</td>
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<td>Bilateral Meeting with Dr. Jacques Rogge, President, International Olympic Committee</td>
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<td>27 December</td>
<td>Porto Alegre, Brazil</td>
<td>Launch of the Ronaldinho Gaúcho Institute</td>
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<td>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Karima Zerrou, Assistant</td>
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**2007**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>29 January</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
<td>Launch of the International Year of African Football at the 8th African Union Summit</td>
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<td>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo, Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-7 February</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
<td>Address at Conference of Parties to the Int. Conv. against Doping in Sport, organized by UNESCO</td>
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<td>Mr. Ogi's office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-14 February</td>
<td>Biel, Switzerland</td>
<td>Sport and Development Workshop, Swiss Academy for Development</td>
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<td><em>Mr. Ogi's office represented by David Winiger, Special Assistant</em></td>
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<td>28 February-3 March</td>
<td>Monrovia, Liberia</td>
<td>Launch of &quot;Sport and Peace&quot; Programme with President of Liberia, UNMIL and the International Olympic Committee</td>
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<td>6-7 March</td>
<td>Montana, Pretoria, South Africa</td>
<td>2010 FIFA World Cup Legacy Programme, Technical Workshop</td>
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<td><em>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Dr. Djibril Diallo</em></td>
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<td>8 March</td>
<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
<td>International Olympic Committee Women and Sport Trophy Ceremony</td>
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<td><em>Mr. Ogi's office represented by Ingrid Beutler, Assistant</em></td>
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<td>19 March</td>
<td>Marseille, France</td>
<td>UNDP Match Against Poverty</td>
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<td>23 March</td>
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<td>Attendance at Eurovisionsport event</td>
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<td>24-28 March</td>
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<td>&quot;5th World Summit on Media for Children&quot; Workshop on the Alexandra Project</td>
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<td>26 March</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
<td>Keynote speech at the World Model United Nations (WorldMUN)</td>
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<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.12 and Add.1)]

61/10. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003, 59/10 of 27 October 2004 and 60/9 of 3 November 2005, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, in which it underlined that sport could foster development and peace and could contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,\(^1\) which includes the Action Plan that serves as an initial road map for a three-year period to expand and strengthen partnerships, sport for development and peace programmes and projects and advocacy and communications activities,

Acknowledging the major role of the Member States and the United Nations system in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through the country programmes,

Acknowledging also that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote tolerance, a culture of peace, social and gender equality, adequate responses to the special needs of persons with disabilities, intercultural dialogue, social cohesion and harmony,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping,

Noting the need to further develop a common framework within the United Nations to promote sport for education, health, development and peace, thereby broadening the mission of the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group to establish a policy and communications platform that will define common strategies, policy and programmes to increase coherence and synergies, while simultaneously raising awareness within the United Nations system and among external partners,

\(^1\)A/61/373.
Recalling the “Call to Action”, which was adopted on 6 December 2005 in Magglingen, Switzerland, at the culminating conference of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, to promote sport for development and peace among Governments, the United Nations system and international sports organizations,

Taking note with appreciation of the organization in 2006 of the Global Youth Leadership Summit that highlighted the use of the convening power of sport as an entry point towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

1. Appreciates the appointment of sports celebrities as spokespersons and Goodwill Ambassadors for the United Nations, representing the positive values of sport;

2. Encourages the strengthening of cooperation with the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, sports organizations and other partners of the world of sport;

3. Invites Member States, the United Nations system, including the governing bodies of the United Nations agencies, sport-related organizations, the media, civil society and the private sector to collaborate to promote greater awareness and action to foster peace and accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals through sport-based initiatives and to promote the integration of sport for development and peace in the development agenda, by working along the following points, adapted from the Action Plan included in the report of the Secretary-General:

   (a) Further develop a global framework to strengthen a common vision, define priorities and further raise awareness to promote and mainstream sport for development and peace policies that are easily replicable;

   (b) Promote and support the integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace in development programmes and policies;

   (c) Promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements on all levels, on a voluntary basis, including the engagement of sports organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector;

   (d) Promote common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards;

4. Invites Member States to initiate sports programmes to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women;

5. Invites Governments and international sports organizations to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sports programmes;

6. Encourages Member States to ratify the International Convention Against Doping in Sport;

7. Encourages the Secretary-General to maintain the mandate of Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace and to provide guidance on the

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institutional future of sport for development and peace within the United Nations system;

8. *Invites* Member States to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Office of Sport for Development and Peace in Geneva and in New York;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution and on progress at the national, regional and international levels to encourage policies and best practices related to sport for development and peace, under the item entitled “Sport for peace and development”.

48th plenary meeting
3 November 2006
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 49
Sport for Development and Peace

Sport for Development and Peace: the way forward

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/9 of 3 November 2005, by which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to elaborate an action plan that would expand and strengthen United Nations partnerships with Governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector. The Action Plan is based on an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace.

The report reviews the achievements of the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005, and the broad range of activities, initiatives and networking carried out in countries worldwide, under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace. It also describes activities by Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to build on the momentum generated by the International Year.

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I. Introduction and background

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/9 of 3 November 2005, by which the Assembly requested that the Secretary-General report on the implementation of the resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005.

2. In his report entitled “Sport for Peace and Development: International Year of Sport and Physical Education” (A/60/217), the Secretary-General described the broad range of activities, initiatives and networking under way and planned worldwide to commemorate the International Year. The present report summarizes the significant achievements of the Year and indicates steps taken to maintain that momentum.

3. In the 2005 World Summit Outcome world leaders stated: “We underline that sports can foster peace and development and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and we encourage discussions in the General Assembly for proposals leading to a plan of action on sport and development.” (General Assembly resolution 60/1 para. 145.)

4. By resolution 60/9, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General “to elaborate an action plan that will expand and strengthen United Nations partnerships with Governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector, on the basis, inter alia, of an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace”. The present report responds to that request and presents an Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace (see chap. VI).

II. Institutional arrangements

5. The commemoration of the International Year was guided by the United Nations Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education. The Office was approved by the Secretary-General in December 2003 and was set up in May 2004. No financial request was made to the United Nations for the establishment of the Office; rather, its success has been dependent on the determination and will of all partners involved, on the financial assistance of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, following the establishment of a trust fund by the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), and on the support in kind of the United Nations Office at Geneva and UNFIP. The Office for the International Year worked in close coordination with the Geneva and New York offices of Sport for Development and Peace, under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace. After the Office for the International Year completed its work in December 2005, the Office of the Special Adviser continued to build on the momentum of the Year, advocating for the power of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals.

6. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) played a key role during the International Year as the lead agency for sport-related issues in the United Nations system, convening Governments to advance the cause of sport and physical education and to raise awareness about
physical education and sport as a means to promote quality education in achieving education for all, social development and peace.

7. The United Nations Communications Group Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace, formed in January 2005 under the leadership of the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace, constitutes an essential forum to foster communication and collaboration within the United Nations system and among partners to advance the use of sport in development policies and programmes and in peacebuilding. The inter-agency Working Group played an important role in promoting commemoration of the International Year. Building on the 2003 report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace,¹ the Working Group published a business plan in June 2005, aiming to provide the United Nations system with a blueprint for promoting more systematic and coherent use of Sport for Development and Peace activities, especially in conjunction with efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Following the request by the General Assembly in resolution 60/9, the business plan was distributed to Member States and many partners.

III. Commemoration of the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005

8. Under the leadership of the Special Adviser, countless activities commemorating the International Year were held around the globe and many included practical initiatives to advance Sport for Development and Peace. Through conferences, seminars, workshops, and special sports events, the United Nations and its partners in Government, the world of sport, civil society, the media, academia and other sectors sought to educate and instil the positive values of sport across the globe. These worldwide efforts in the lead-up to and during the Year produced a number of positive results:

(a) Sport is a stronger partner in development as the Year highlighted the significant role that sport can play in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and provided momentum to efforts to mainstream sport into existing development and peace programmes by offering innovative approaches, in combination with existing efforts, to accomplish specific targets such as those concerning poverty reduction, education, gender equality, and HIV/AIDS. Many of the activities generated during 2005 are to be integrated into regular programmes;

(b) “Sport for all” is better recognized as a national priority in many countries;

(c) Sport and physical education are recognized as international priorities, and many countries increased their involvement in sports and physical education projects that contribute to education, health, development and peace in developing countries;

(d) Sport, physical education and physical activity are recognized for the important role they play in improving public health;

(e) A significant achievement during the Year is the unanimous adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport by the UNESCO General Conference at its thirty-third session, on 19 October 2005;

(f) The Year has increased recognition of the potential of sport, as a universal language, to bridge social, religious, ethnic and gender divides, hence contributing to lasting peace;

(g) Sport demonstrated that it can contribute to a powerful synergy to raise public awareness and mobilize support and resources, and sport organizations and sporting goods providers embraced the multi-stakeholder approach advocated during the Year;

(h) Sport was successfully used as a mobilizing force to raise resources for relief activities for natural disasters such as the Southeast Asian tsunami in 2004 and the earthquake in Pakistan in 2005;

(i) The International Year was a springboard for launching new and strengthening existing programmes using sport and physical education to achieve internationally recognized development goals such as the Millennium Development Goals.

**National dynamics during the International Year**

9. Action at the country level in coordinating and publicizing commemorative activities is testimony to the success of the International Year. National focal points have been established in 70 countries, including in Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Niger, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu and Zambia. The valuable contribution of United Nations information centres and United Nations resident coordinators in assisting in identification of a significant number of national focal points is recognized.

10. Beyond countries which established national focal points, over 55 other countries from all regions have been active. These include initiatives undertaken in: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burundi, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Egypt, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Iraq, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Montenegro, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Somalia, Timor-Leste, the Holy See, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uzbekistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe,
11. All countries are encouraged to continue activities beyond the Year to help to develop and implement sustainable sporting and physical education programmes and policies designed to respond to the specific needs and conditions of their communities.

**International dynamics during the International Year**

12. A number of United Nations funds, programmes, and specialized agencies used the Year to highlight and encourage the use of sport in international development programmes and projects, and the United Nations system has a lead role in policy dialogue on strategic and global levels. A series of international conferences was organized in relation with national efforts to commemorate the Year on the initiative of the Special Adviser:

- International Conference on Sport and Health (Hammamet, Tunisia, 22-24 March 2005)
- International Conference on Sport and Peace (Moscow, 3-5 October 2005)
- International Conference on Sport and Education (Bangkok, 30 October-2 November 2005)
- Second Conference on Sport and Development (Magglingen, Switzerland, 4-6 December 2005).

13. A further 20 international and 18 regional conferences were also held during the Year, which addressed issues essential to promoting the positive values of sport, including:

- International Forum on Sports and Development, Economy, Culture and with the theme “Ethics” (Bad-Boll, Germany, 13-15 February 2005)
- Round table on the Response of the World of Sport to the Indian Ocean Tsunami (Geneva, Switzerland, 14 April 2005)
- Arafura Games International Sport Conference Celebrating Sport and Culture (Darwin, Australia, 13-15 May 2005)
- Next Step II Conference — Taking Sport for Development Home (Livingstone, Zambia, 10-13 June 2005)
- Sport Summit for the Environment (Aichi/Nagoya, Japan, 30 and 31 July 2005)
- Sixth International Olympic Committee World Conference on Sport and Environment (Nairobi, 9-11 November 2005)
- Second World Summit on Physical Education (Magglingen, Switzerland, 2 and 3 December 2005).

14. Conference outcome documents and the results of the Year were presented at the Second Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development. This culminating event of the Year was organized by the Swiss Federal Office of Sport and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, in close cooperation with the Office of
the Special Adviser and attended by participants from 70 countries. A Call to Action was adopted, urging stakeholders to carry the momentum of the Year well into the future by actively using sport and promoting Sport for Development and Peace in their respective fields.

15. Sporting events commemorating the International Year were organized around the globe. Global communications and public-awareness activities during the Year included various tools; the creation of a United Nations website (www.un.org/sport2005) and a number of national websites dedicated to the Year; an introductory film; a fortnightly United Nations Sport Bulletin in English, Spanish and French; and an international Toolkit: Sport for Development available in CD-ROM and online was promoted and distributed. An unprecedented level of media attention was accorded to the issue of sport and physical education for development and peace during the Year.

16. Following the launching of the Year on 5 November 2004, the Special Adviser appointed Roger Federer, a top-ranked tennis star, and Margaret Okayo, a marathon champion, as spokespersons to promote the objectives of the Year. He also appointed the national cricket teams of India and Pakistan as spokespersons in recognition of their efforts in overcoming regional tension and encouraging peaceful relations.

17. The commemorative efforts undertaken during the Year particularly took into account certain negative aspects facing athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties.

18. The International Year highlighted the importance of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector in moving forward sport and physical education as tools for the promotion of education, health, development and peace. Governmental organizations in the field of development cooperation using sport and physical education as a tool for development and peace played an outstanding role, particularly those in Austria, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The Year proved that international sports federations and organizations such as the International Olympic Committee, the International Football Federation (FIFA) and the International Paralympic Committee, are increasingly willing to become involved in humanitarian actions.

19. The Special Adviser’s Final Report on the International Year summarizes its activities and the achievements and was presented to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly at a special event at the United Nations on 3 April 2006, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The report, distributed to Member States and many partners, is available at www.un.org/sport2005. A comprehensive book on the International Year prepared by the Office of the Special Adviser will be launched during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly.
IV. The way forward

20. At the presentation of the Final Report on the International Year, the Secretary-General stated: "Our task now is to take our mission to the next stage ... and make sport an essential component of our efforts to reach the world’s development goals.” He concluded that the Year had charted a course for action and implementation, and that its momentum must be maintained. In this spirit, Member States, the United Nations system and other actors have initiated a number of activities.

A. Activities reported by Member States

21. To assist in preparation of the Action Plan, the Secretary-General circulated a note verbale dated 7 July 2006 to Member States requesting information on lessons learned from the International Year, obstacles encountered in national efforts to implement Sport for Development and Peace initiatives, and how sport-related activities have incorporated into strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and difficulties encountered. The note verbale also asked how sport had been utilized as a tool for conflict prevention and building sustainable peace, what difficulties had been encountered, and how partnerships with sport-related organizations, the private sector and other partners could be strengthened to make better use of sport as a tool for development and peace. As at 15 September 2006, information was received from: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Monaco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It is emphasized that information in the present section is based only on those replies, presenting a sample of activities by Member States to build on the momentum of the International Year.

National Sport for Development and Peace activities

22. The replies show that a number of countries have established national laws, policies or strategies that advance Sport for Development and Peace and indicate their intentions to follow up on the International Year, including Belarus, Bolivia, the Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Australia, Germany and the Netherlands have incorporated sport into development cooperation activities.

Lessons learned and obstacles encountered

23. The lessons learned from efforts to implement Sport for Development and Peace initiatives reported by countries include the need for:

(a) Community ownership and sustainability rather than “one-off” projects;
(b) Sustainable strategies by Governments in development cooperation on sport;
(c) Adequate resources for Sport for Development and Peace initiatives;
(d) Reversal of the priority given to elite sport rather than community sport activities;
(e) Greater collaboration between Government, sports organizations, the private sector and NGOs;

(f) Sport organizations to promote professionalism in sport instruction;

(g) Emphasis on the value of physical education in improving health, holistic development, peace and national harmony;

(h) International organizations to help countries to improve participation in sport;

(i) Agreements to provide help countries to gain expertise and share of experience;

(j) More physical education teachers and sport instructors.

24. Obstacles encountered include:

(a) A lack of adequate resources, and in some cases competition among stakeholders for limited funding;

(b) Insufficient monitoring and evaluation to gauge the effectiveness of programmes;

(c) A lack of awareness of the positive benefits of sport to encourage greater public participation;

(d) The negative impact of electronic games, Internet facilities, and virtual amusements on youth participation in sport;

(e) The increasing costs of participating in sport and excessive focus on sport for the talented;

(f) Regional imbalances in sport programmes;

(g) In schools, a lack of capacity among teachers and principals to introduce effective physical education curricula, and a lack of sports and physical education infrastructure.

Integration of sport into strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

25. A number of replies indicated that sport contributes to the overall pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals, and others more broadly endorsed the role of sport in fostering development, including Azerbaijan, Bolivia, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Saint Lucia, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates. Replies received also indicated sport activities that contribute to the achievement of specific Goals.

Goal 1: Eradicate poverty

26. Bolivia and Burkina Faso seek to create new economic and employment opportunities through sport. Germany assists projects for at-risk children in several countries. Monaco assists two countries with sport programmes, and plans participation in a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) sport programme for at-risk youth in slum areas.
**Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education**


**Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women**

28. In Azerbaijan, sport activities are a part of the national policy on gender equality. The assistance of Australia to a sport programme in the region facilitates women’s inclusion. Sport organizations in Burkina Faso are increasingly including competitions for women. Sport policies of the Czech Republic sport promote gender equality. Germany has supported sport programmes for girls in Afghanistan. Mauritius has a school programme to encourage girls to practice sport, and Tunisia recognizes women’s right to participate in sport as a part of its “sport for all” policy.

**Goal 4: Reduce child mortality**

29. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela includes physical activities in programmes to promote child health.

**Goal 5: Improve maternal health.**

30. Physical activity for maternal health is a part of the national sport programme in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

**Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**

31. Australia assists sport programmes in several countries that deliver HIV/AIDS prevention messages. Sport is used in Burkina Faso to promote HIV/AIDS awareness. The Netherlands assists projects of the NGO Right to Play and coach-to-coach projects that teach HIV/AIDS prevention in a number of countries. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela uses sport in a programme to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

**Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**

32. The Burkina Faso National Olympic and Sport Committee carried out a tree-planting project to combat desertification.

**Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development**

33. Australia, Germany and the Netherlands use sport in development cooperation to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The Burkina Faso Ministry of Sport and Leisure, and sport federations, cooperate with partners from the north and south. Nicaragua and Thailand use sport as part of regional development efforts.
34. Replies also indicate other positive contributions of sport, including in programmes to assist refugee and internally displaced children, promote social integration, assist recovery from natural disasters, aid national campaigns against smoking and drug addiction, and for inclusion of people with disabilities. A difficulty encountered was the challenge to ensure that sport programmes are of the highest quality and adapted to communities’ needs.

**Sport for peacebuilding and conflict prevention**

35. Replies indicate that many countries view sport as a valuable tool in efforts to strengthen national unity and solidarity among regions and population groups, including Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Croatia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Monaco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Saint Lucia, Tunisia, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Sport is also seen as contributing to international peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Difficulties encountered were the need to evaluate programme effectiveness, and the mobilization of funds.

**Strengthening partnerships**

36. A number of replies indicate the vital role of partnerships with sports organizations, private sector partnerships and other organizations can play to make better use of sport as a tool for development and peace. These countries are Australia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Germany, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Saint Lucia, Thailand, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

**B. International activities and initiatives**

37. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, whose members include representatives of national Governments from the global north and south, the United Nations system and civil society organizations, issued a preliminary report in June 2006 examining diverse national approaches to Sport for Development and Peace. The report encourages its country members “to harness and integrate the tremendous power of sport into broader national development and peace strategies”. The report analyses current Sport for Development and Peace practices in 13 countries: Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Ghana, the Netherlands, Norway, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United Kingdom, and Zambia. Among the report’s key findings are the need to position sport as a low-cost, high-impact tool to achieve development aims, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, and that sport and physical activity programmes need to be inclusive, with universal access promoted, including for women and girls and people with disabilities. The report also found evidence of strong momentum among developing countries in favour of Sport for Development and Peace.

38. The Secretary-General, with his Special Adviser, met for the first time with the leaders of the International Olympic Committee in January 2006 to strengthen cooperation in using sport as a tool to reduce tension in areas of conflict. It was agreed that the United Nations system should cooperate with national Olympic

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Committees to ensure that sport is incorporated to a greater degree in educational curricula. The International Olympic Committee collaborates with several United Nations agencies, including UNAIDS on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention activities; the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on a “Green Games” project for environmentally sustainable Olympics; the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on sports equipment and activities for refugee camps; and with the International Labour Organization (ILO) on youth sport programmes in Albania, El Salvador and Mozambique.

39. Noting the call by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/8 of 3 November 2005, for observance of the Olympic Truce during the 2006 Winter Games in Turin, a message from the Secretary-General of 10 February 2006 urged that athletes participating in the Games be afforded safe passage, and that all engaged in hostilities respect the truce.

40. The Special Adviser is cooperating with the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations in a partnership with the IOC begun in 2006 to involve national Olympic Committees and other sport organizations in countries where the Department for Peacekeeping Operations has missions in sport for peacebuilding activities with other United Nations partners. In the first initiative, United Nations peacekeepers and the International Olympic Committee held Peace Games in Kinshasa, in August 2006. Similar events are planned in other parts of the country, and in Liberia and Côte d’Ivoire. A number of peacekeeping missions use sports activities, according an inventory initiated by the Special Adviser and the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

41. The United Nations Environment Programme worked closely with the International Olympic Committee and the Turin Olympic Organizing Committee to make the 2006 Winter Olympic Games environmentally sustainable. For example, the HEritage Climate TORino (HECTOR) project was designed to make the Games carbon neutral by supporting forestry, energy efficiency and renewable energy schemes to offset the estimated 100,000 tons of carbon dioxide generated during the Games. UNEP has entered into a similar partnership with the Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympic Games.

42. The World Economic Forum 2006 in Davos, Switzerland, for the first time brought together leaders from the world of sport to discuss sport’s role in improving the state of the world and to plan new initiatives. The Secretary-General highlighted sport’s contributions to development and peace at the event. The sport leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving the state of the world through sport and agreed to create a communications platform to present Sport for Development and Peace success stories and compile and distribute of evidence on the benefits of participation in sports, studies of best practices, and statistics and facts about the sports industry.

43. The Secretary-General, with his Special Adviser, also met with the leaders of FIFA in January 2006. There was agreement that football has a great capacity as a catalyst to assist United Nations activities, such as fighting poverty, combating HIV/AIDS, promoting peace, and bringing people together. For the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, a joint statement by the Secretary-General and the President of FIFA cited football’s potential to improve the world, and an op-ed by the Secretary-General on football’s positive powers was carried in 72 newspapers in 42 countries. At the 2006 World Cup, the Secretary-General called the 2010 FIFA
World Cup in South Africa a major opportunity to develop sport in Africa. For the South Africa event, FIFA is setting up the “Win in Africa ... With Africa” programme.

44. During its Presidency of the European Union in the beginning of 2006, Austria promoted Sport for Development and Peace, emphasizing that sport can help meet global challenges such as armed conflict and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

45. The International Disability in Sport Working Group was formed by representatives from 15 organizations in January 2006 to advance the human rights of people with disabilities relating to sport, monitor the status of these rights worldwide, support research that enhances these rights, and develop sport and physical activity programmes.

46. An ad hoc committee of the General Assembly reached agreement on a draft convention on the rights of people with disabilities, on 25 August 2006. Article 30 of the draft convention provides that States Parties shall take measures to promote participation of people with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities and to disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, and ensure children with disabilities have equal access to participation in recreation and sports, including those activities in school. The draft convention will be presented to the General Assembly for adoption at its sixty-first session.

47. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace was initiated with the support of the Special Adviser by the Government of Switzerland among Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in New York in January 2005. Co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Switzerland and Tunisia, this intergovernmental platform encourages Member States to follow up on the International Year and promote integration of sport into international cooperation and national development policies through the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions. The open-ended group has expanded to include Permanent Representatives from 25 Member States.

48. With youth as one of the greatest beneficiaries of the effects of sport, the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace has organized a series of Youth Leadership Summits to highlight the use of sport as an entry point for mobilizing youth to bolster efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The Pan-African, Pan-Asian and Latin America and Caribbean Youth Leadership Summits were held in Dakar in June 2004; Hiroshima, Japan, in September 2004; and Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in May 2005, respectively. The second Pan-African Youth Leadership Summit was hosted by Morocco in August 2005. The regional summits culminate in the United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit in New York at the end of October 2006.

49. The New York Office is highlighting sport’s role in combating malaria, and at the request of the Secretary-General helped to organize the United Nations sixtieth Anniversary Concert entitled “United against Malaria” in October 2005 in Geneva. Initiatives in 2006 have included a “Dunk Malaria” event with the Hedge Funds vs. Malaria organization in cooperation with the New York Knicks basketball team, and a press trip to the United Republic of Tanzania organized with the National Association of Black Journalists, the United Nations system and other partners.
50. The fourth World Conference on Women and Sport, held in Kumamoto, Japan, from 11 to 14 May 2006, was organized by the International Working Group for Women and Sport and concluded with the Kumamoto Commitment to Collaboration on realizing gender equality in and through sport.

C. Communications and outreach

51. Internet-based tools, such as the Sport and Development International Platform, available at: www.sportanddev.org and supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, provides a common working framework that facilitates international cooperation.


D. United Nations activities

53. During 2006, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes have carried out a broad range of activities that have helped build on the momentum of the International Year. Such initiatives are, however, at times ad hoc, informal and isolated, and further steps can more fully integrate sport in the development agenda.

54. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) seeks to involve well-known sports personalities, including football stars and other FAO Goodwill Ambassadors, in raising awareness and mobilizing public generosity about hunger prevention and alleviation. FAO also works with member countries to organize sporting and cultural events in support of its TeleFood campaign. The campaign has generated close to US$ 19 million in donations and funded more than 2,000 projects in 127 countries.

55. The ILO/Universitas programme published Beyond the Scoreboard: Youth employment opportunities and skills development in the sports sector in 2006, a book which examines how youth leadership and skills development can be fostered through sport. The programme has a new initiative with 77 Italian academies to review university curricula around decent work and youth employment, using sport as an entry point for youth skills development and training. ILO adopted the theme of women and sport for its 2006 celebration of International Women's Day, and activities included the award ceremony of the International Olympic Committee Women and Sport Trophy.

56. The Italian National Committee for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) partnered with the Torino Organizing Committee for the XXth Winter Olympic Games and the TIM mobile phone company to raise funds for UNICEF immunization programmes in the Sudan, and a related project sold Italian handmade rag dolls. The initiative raised over 500,000 euros.

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3 Available at www.iwg.gti.org/pdfs/kumamotocommitment.pdf.
57. UNICEF joined with FIFA during the 2006 World Cup in the Unite for Children, Unite for Peace campaign, which included public service announcements featuring leading football players and a manual for players and coaches designed to combat violence and discrimination, particularly against girls. The National Basketball Association and UNICEF joined forces in support of Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS. The partners launched a multilingual global HIV/AIDS awareness public service announcement featuring 10 star players.

58. The UNDP Small Arms Control Programme in Liberia has implemented a series of Community Arms Collection for Development pilot projects, with soccer an important element. In partnership with Mercy Corps, UNDP facilitated donation of in kind support to aid to 564 soccer clubs in 21 districts in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, as part of a broader effort to rehabilitate the athletic infrastructure badly damaged in the December 2004 tsunami disaster. The Espaces Tadamoune (Spaces of Solidarity) programme by UNDP in Morocco, in partnership with the Maroc Jeunesse Initiative and Development Foundation and the national sports sector, aims to reduce youth crime and unemployment in Casablanca through sport training and counselling, leading to job placements. A UNDP seminar in Rwanda on “Using Sport to Achieve Rwanda’s Millennium Development Goals” in July 2006 drew participants from the Government, civil society, sporting federations and other sectors.

59. UNESCO has made its Sector of Social and Human Sciences responsible for the Physical Education and Sport Programmes to better articulate a new sport for peace and social development policy. The Sector organized events in July 2006 during the celebration of the organization’s sixtieth anniversary. The Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport in 2006 decided to develop a workplan to strengthen its role in the promotion of physical activity and sport. UNESCO reports that as of 1 September 2006 the following countries had ratified, accepted or acceded to the International Convention against Doping in Sport: Australia, Canada, the Cook Islands, Denmark, Iceland, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Mauritius, Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Seychelles, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

60. UNHCR launched the "ninemillion.org" campaign in July 2006 to assist the 9 million refugee children worldwide through education and sports activities with support from corporate partners, including Nike and Microsoft. Nike also helped UNHCR to create volleyball uniforms adhere to the traditional dress code and allow freedom of movement for Somali girls in three refugee camps in northern Kenya.

61. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the International Association of Sports and Leisure Facilities are preparing a plan of action to promote recreation facilities worldwide, especially in developing countries. In Nairobi, a UN-Habitat Safer Public Space campaign uses sport to help young people to gain access to the city’s public open space. UN-Habitat and the United Nations Federal Credit Union have launched the Kilimanjaro Initiative, an annual mountain climb to enhance self-esteem among youth from slums in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi.

62. The United Nations Office of Drug and Crime and the Qatar National Olympic Committee have set up the Global Sport Fund against Drugs. The fund will give grants, provided by Qatar, to NGOs worldwide to sponsor events, youth camps and exhibitions and to hold training seminars for coaches and young people.
63. United Nations Volunteers joined with the Turin 2006 Non-Profit Coordination and Ideal Solidale to host a forum on volunteerism and promotion of human rights during the 2006 Winter Olympic Games. More than 20,000 volunteers were part of the Volunteer Programme.

64. The World Health Organization (WHO) fourth International Workshop on Physical Activity and Public Health in January 2006 aimed to increase countries' capacity to raise awareness about the importance of physical activity and increase participation in physical activities and "sport for all". The 2005 WHO global report *Preventing chronic disease: a vital investment* highlights physical inactivity as a major health-risk factor.

V. Partnerships and resource mobilization

65. The 2003 report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace¹ recommended that "programmes supporting Sport for Development and Peace need greater attention and resources by Governments and the United Nations system". As noted above, some Governments face challenges in increasing capacity of sport initiatives and finding resources for that priority.

66. The General Assembly in its resolution 60/9, invites Member States, the United Nations system, international sport bodies and sport-related organizations to promote implementation of partnership initiatives and development projects. Partnerships have proven a useful approach for advancing and coordinating Sport for Development and Peace activities and can be a tool for resource mobilization. Partnerships can also lay the groundwork for cost-effective integration of Sport for Development and Peace into national development policies and programmes.

67. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes are increasingly forging partnerships for sport-related initiatives. The International Year created greater awareness of the value of such partnerships and their mutually beneficial synergy, and the Special Adviser's Office of Sport for Development and Peace has forged partnerships with Governments and a number of private sector organizations and NGOs.

68. By resolution 60/9, the General Assembly invited Member States to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Special Adviser's Office of Sport for Development and Peace. In that regard, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation has supported the work of the Geneva Office, and UNDP has supported the New York Office. A trust fund is being established with the assistance of UNDP to sustain the work of both offices through voluntary contributions.

VI. United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace

69. The international community is committed to the Millennium Declaration and to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, and the International Year demonstrated the power of sport in its many dimensions and worldwide appeal to make significant contributions to development and peace. The Action Plan presents a framework to enable the United Nations system, Member States, the world of sport and other partners to build on the achievements of the Year. It is a strategy to better integrate sport into the development agenda; incorporate sport in programmes for health, education, development and peace; utilize sport as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals; and focus greater attention and resources on Sport for Development and Peace.

70. Participation in sport is recognized as a human right, and “sport for all” should be the basis for the systematic use of Sport for Development and Peace. Stakeholders are urged to establish clear linkages between the opportunity to participate in sport and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the broader goals of sustainable development and peace.

Time frame

71. Maintaining the momentum generated by the International Year is vital, and the Action Plan therefore covers the next three years. The aim is to encourage the United Nations and its partners to move from awareness to greater implementation and action.

Lines of action

72. All stakeholders are urged to meet the challenges below and work along these lines of action to integrate Sport for Development and Peace in the development agenda at every level:

1. Global framework for Sport for Development and Peace

   Challenge: Globally agreed development goals provide a common denominator and common agenda for stakeholders to work together and contribute towards advancing a global framework for Sport for Development and Peace.

   Action: Enhance cooperation and coordination to create a common vision of the role of sport in the service of development and peace, to establish a knowledge network, define priorities and further raise awareness. Develop and promote exemplary Sport for Development and Peace initiatives where the mainstreaming and replication will provide the most benefit to the achievement of development objectives.

2. Policy development

   Challenge: Sport for Development and Peace strategies need to be explicitly incorporated into national and international development plans and policies and vice versa, with enhanced cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders.

   Action: Promote and support the systematic integration and mainstreaming of Sport for Development and Peace as an instrument in development plans and policies.
Promote the principle of “sport for all” and develop inclusive sports policies. Strengthen and invest in sport and physical education and integrate sport, physical activity and play in public health and other relevant policies.

3. **Resource mobilization**

*Challenge:* Scaling up of Sport for Development and Peace initiatives for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other development objectives requires resource mobilization and creative partnerships.

*Action:* Enhance coordination to promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements on all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes, and the private sector.

4. **Evidence of impact**

*Challenge:* Mainstreaming Sport for Development and Peace in national and international programmes and policies requires comprehensive monitoring and evaluation.

*Action:* Develop and promote common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards.

**Action points**

73. The following action points are aimed at specific sectors and stakeholders to maximize the positive impact of sport.

**Member States**

74. Responsibility for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals rests first and foremost with Governments. The Action Plan aims to help to realize the full potential of sport as a powerful, cost-effective way of supporting Member States in the attainment of the MDGs by 2015 and the broader goals of sustainable development and lasting peace.

- Governments are encouraged to: implement the principle of “sport for all” through inclusive and coherent legislation and policies, including measures to promote participation of people with disabilities; involve all stakeholders in their coordination and implementation; establish a viable sport sector that is managed by professionals and experts trained in Sport for Development and Peace; strengthen and invest in sport and physical education in schools and educational systems; create an effective support system for programmes preventing negative influences in sport; and integrate sport, physical activity and play in public health and other relevant policies as a national priority.

- The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace is encouraged to continue to motivate Member States to integrate sport in their international cooperation and development policies through implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions. The Group is encouraged to share national experiences and best practices, reach out to the private sector and propose research and development initiatives for the United Nations system in joint ventures with the private sector and other partners.
• Relevant Government agencies are encouraged to value investment in sport development and infrastructure, including the basic institutions of sport, playing areas, skilled volunteers and provision of funds to assist local initiatives. Governments are also encouraged to incorporate sport in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers.

• Governments and national organizations are encouraged to support young talented athletes to realize their full potential and protect them from exploitation. Athletes who compete at the international level help to foster national unity, promote intercultural dialogue, inspire younger generations to excel and create a sense of national pride.

• Governments are encouraged to engage in international initiatives and partnerships to advance Sport for Development and Peace.

• Governments are encouraged to initiate sport programmes to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

• The continued establishment and development of sport-related national focal points, committees, and other multi-stakeholder mechanisms at the national level for sustainable initiatives are encouraged. National focal points identified during the Year and afterwards by their Government are requested to collaborate with the Special Adviser to provide a framework within which national, regional and international contacts and coordination may be fostered.

• National committees are encouraged to engage and include a broad range of country-level actors, ensuring gender balance, including: local governments, national Olympic committees, sports federations and clubs, athletes, the private sector, interested academic circles, United Nations country teams and the NGO community.

The United Nations system

75. The United Nations system is increasingly including sport in its programming and advocacy. New efforts are called for, however, to realize sport's full potential to contribute to health, education, development and peace.

• Sport should be incorporated into United Nations country programmes where appropriate, both in sport-specific activities and to strengthen other programmes, and on a similar basis into common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, to establish a common Sport for Development and Peace framework to utilize sport effectively in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

• Partnerships within the United Nations system may be facilitated by the United Nations Communications Group Working Group, as a means to provide United Nations system-wide coherence and collaboration and provide a platform for external partners to engage with the United Nations system.

• United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes are encouraged to integrate sport and physical education into their policies and long-term plans.

• The United Nations system is encouraged to seek new and innovative ways to use sport for communication and social mobilization at the international, national and local levels.
National and international stakeholders

76. Stakeholders across a broad spectrum are advancing Sport for Development and Peace, and are called upon to expand their activities and increase their cooperation.

- The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group is encouraged to continue to articulate and promote the adoption of policy recommendations that support the integration of sport into national and international development strategies and programmes.

- All stakeholders, including media, academia, civil society, and sport organizations, are encouraged to support capacity-building and education programmes to enhance awareness of best practices in the use of Sport for Development and Peace and the relationship between sport and its use as a development and peacebuilding tool.

- Bilateral development agencies are called upon to integrate sport in development cooperation policies and programmes; and implement and evaluate projects and programmes.

- Sport organizations are urged to integrate and implement gender mainstreaming and sustainable development principles in their policies, programmes and projects. Local and regional sport organizations need to better advocate, organize and coordinate sport events, share resources, provide logistical and moral support and ensure greater participation.

- Athletes are encouraged to act as role models and use their influence and experience to advocate for development and peace.

- Health organizations should promote use of sport to raise the quality of life, reduce expenditure on health services and increase productivity.

- Armed forces are encouraged to use sport to promote friendship and for building peace and security.

- Media are encouraged to adopt editorial strategies that ensure the coverage of social and political aspects of sport; train journalists; and raise awareness of the achievements and potential of Sport for Development and Peace.

- NGOs are encouraged to implement projects that demonstrate the potential of Sport for Development and Peace; transfer experience and knowledge; engage other members of civil society; support the work of the national focal points or committees; improve channels of communication among groups active in sport for development; and organize or host field visits and media trips to promote their work.

- Private sector sports companies and sports industry organizations are encouraged to take a lead role in Sport for Development and Peace policy dialogues; raise the awareness of international actors and other partners; strengthen networks and enhance coordination; and carry out and evaluate projects and programmes. They are requested to address social and environmental impacts of operations and across supply chains; support and invest in sport-based development activities; bolster partnerships and inform the public about the values of sport; and incorporate the theme of “development through sport and physical education” at conferences and other events.
• Academic and research institutions, including the United Nations University, are encouraged to develop collaborative agendas on Sport for Development and Peace, including the documentation, analysis and validation of experiences, and development of instruction, monitoring and evaluation methods and instruments.

• Internet platforms: stakeholders are encouraged to refer to websites such as the website of the Special Adviser (www.un.org/sport2005), which serve as communication tools and provide a common framework that facilitates international cooperation. Stakeholders are encouraged to support and contribute to these essential platforms.

Strategic partnerships and resource mobilization

77. Programme implementation: Many Sport for Development and Peace projects within the United Nations system are based on innovative partnerships. To advance these:

• Planning for development programmes is encouraged to include sport organizations, and development organizations and Governments are encouraged to utilize Sport for Development and Peace policies.

• Government, sport organizations, and implementing organizations in development are encouraged to strengthen ties.

78. Resource mobilization: Partnerships provide a strategic approach to resource mobilization, both for and through sport. Resources can be mobilized by engaging sport organizations and athletes, and through partnerships with the private sector.

• Stakeholders are encouraged to identify appropriate partners in the field of development and peace and incorporate sport programmes into programming. Governments, the United Nation system and partners, including the private sector, sport organizations and civil society are urged to make available resources for Sport for Development and Peace initiatives.

79. Advocacy: Partnering with the world of sport provides innovative ways to communicate key development and peace messages to diverse groups and to effectively mobilize society around vital issues through sport.

80. Partnerships within the United Nations system can be facilitated by the United Nations Communications Group Working Group as a means to build United Nations system-wide coherence and collaboration and provide a platform for external partners to engage with the United Nations system.

81. National committees and Governments are encouraged to facilitate partnerships among sport organizations, NGOs, media, the private sector, research institutions, athletes, the armed forces and other stakeholders.

Peacebuilding through sport

82. Sport has the power to bring people together, bridge differences, and promote communication and understanding. Nonetheless, sport alone cannot foster enduring peace. Supporting factors such as an interest in peace among different groups, media involvement, strong civil society participation and dedication by sport organizations are needed for sport to be an effective vehicle of peace.
• Governments, the United Nations system, and sport organizations are encouraged to use sport as a means to build peace through friendly competitions, support for advocacy campaigns and community programmes, and recognition of prominent athletes as positive role models.

• Parties with a history of conflict are encouraged to demonstrate positive interest in peacebuilding initiatives, the media are encouraged to disseminate information on sport activities for peace, and civil society and sport organizations are encouraged to be proactive in organizing peacebuilding initiatives through sport.

• Research organizations and academia are requested to study the use of sport as a vehicle of peace and present findings to encourage peacebuilding through sport.

Coordination through the offices of the Special Adviser

83. Since his appointment, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace and his Office of Sport for Development and Peace have made significant contributions towards the establishment of a common framework that draws together sport-related initiatives and partners across sectors. The United Nations Communications Group Working Group, the Group of Friends, the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group and other actors within the institutional framework for Sport for Development and Peace play an important role in those efforts.

• It is recommended that the Special Adviser continue his leadership role in fostering partnerships between the world of sport and the development community and promoting a common framework in the United Nations system and with Member States and partners.

• Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 60/9, Member States are urged to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office of Sport for Development and Peace, in Geneva and New York.

• The various actors within the institutional framework for Sport for Development and Peace are encouraged to continue to generate support, both in terms of priority and resources, for such activities among the United Nations system, Governments and sport-related organizations.

• The Special Adviser is encouraged to continue to coordinate the collection of information on United Nations sports initiatives, publish news on a regular basis, and support information-sharing on the Internet and other vehicles.

• The Special Adviser is encouraged to continue to support the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretariat in operational activities to use sport as a tool for development and peace.

• Governments, sports federations, intergovernmental organization, NGOs, the private sector and others are encouraged to cooperate with the Office of Sport for Development and Peace, the United Nations Communications Group Working Group, the Group of Friends and other actors within the institutional framework.
Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.7 and Add.1)]

60/9. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and 59/10 of 27 October 2004, and its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, in which it underlined that sport could foster peace and development and could contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child\(^1\) and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",\(^2\) stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen and sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties,

Considering the contribution of sport and physical education towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained

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\(^2\) Resolution S-27/2, annex.
in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the broader aims of development and peace.

Noting that sport and physical education is a lifelong activity and constitutes a major tool for health and physical development and for acquiring values necessary for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Acknowledging that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote tolerance, a culture of peace, social and gender equality, adequate responses to the special needs of persons with disabilities, dialogue and harmony,

Acknowledging also the contribution of the Olympic Games to understanding, peace and tolerance among and between peoples and civilizations,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping,

Noting the need for the development of a common framework within the United Nations to promote sport for education, health, development and peace,

Recognizing the need to maintain the momentum generated by the commemoration of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, through, inter alia, increased voluntary contributions and well-targeted communications-based activities,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for peace and development: International Year of Sport and Physical Education”;

2. Welcomes the widespread commitment demonstrated by Member States, sport-related organizations and the private sector for the successful commemoration of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, through the organization of activities and events at national, regional and international levels, including:

   (a) The holding of international conferences emphasizing the role of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

   (b) The setting up of a network of national focal points virtually in every region;

   (c) The organization of youth leadership summits that highlight the use of sport as an entry point towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

   (d) The strengthening of cooperation with the International Olympic Committee, sport-related associations and other partners;

   (e) The appointment of sport celebrities as spokespersons for the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

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3 See resolution 55/2.
4 A/60/217.
3. Notes the elaboration of a business plan by the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group, as a common framework to foster coordination and cooperation for a more systematic and coherent use of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and requests the Secretary-General to disseminate the business plan as widely as possible among Member States, the United Nations system and sport-related organizations;

4. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To elaborate an action plan that will expand and strengthen United Nations partnerships with Governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector, on the basis, inter alia, of an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace;

(b) To strengthen advocacy and social mobilization, especially at the national, regional and international levels, through well-targeted communications-based activities, and stresses the contribution of the United Nations Sport Bulletin as well as websites in this regard;

5. Invites Member States to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Office of Sport for Development and Peace;

6. Invites Member States, the United Nations system, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to promote further sport and physical education, including assistance for the building and restoration of sports infrastructures, the implementation of partnership initiatives and development projects, as a contribution towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the broader aims of development and peace;

7. Invites Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sports programmes;

8. Welcomes the adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-third session, and invites Member States to consider adhering to this Convention as early as possible;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the International Year in 2005, under the item entitled “Sport for peace and development”.

43rd plenary meeting
3 November 2005
Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[w]ithout reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.9 and Add.1)]

59/10. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Considering the role of sport and physical education as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Noting that sport and physical education in many countries face increasing marginalization within education systems even though they are a major tool not only for health and physical development but also for acquiring values necessary for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children", stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen and sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping, and noting in this regard the

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2 Resolution S-27/2, annex.
Anti-Doping Convention established by the Council of Europe,\(^3\) the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-doping in Sport, adopted during the World Conference on Doping in Sport, held from 3 to 5 March 2003, and any other relevant international instrument,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for peace and development: International Year of Sport and Physical Education”;\(^4\)

2. Decides to launch, on 5 November 2004, the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

3. Invites Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions to organize events to underline their commitment and to seek the assistance of sports personalities in this regard;

4. Also invites Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions:

   (a) To promote the role of sport and physical education for all when furthering their development programmes and policies, to advance health awareness, the spirit of achievement and cultural bridging and to entrench collective values;

   (b) To include sport and physical education as a tool to contribute towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration\(^5\) and the broader aims of development and peace;

   (c) To work collectively so that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote a culture of peace and social and gender equality and to advocate dialogue and harmony;

   (d) To recognize the contribution of sport and physical education towards economic and social development and to encourage the building and restoration of sports infrastructures;

   (e) To further promote sport and physical education, on the basis of locally assessed needs, as a tool for health, education, social and cultural development and environmental sustainability;

   (f) To strengthen cooperation and partnership between all actors, including family, school, clubs/leagues, local communities, youth sports associations and decision makers as well as the public and private sectors, in order to ensure complementarities and to make sport and physical education available to everyone;

   (g) To ensure that young talents can develop their athletic potential without any threat to their safety and physical and moral integrity;

5. Encourages Governments, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to elaborate and implement partnership initiatives and development projects compatible with the education provided at all levels of schooling to help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

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\(^3\) Council of Europe, European Treaty Series, No. 135.
\(^4\) A/59/268 and Add.1.
\(^5\) See resolution 55/2.
6. **Invites** Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small Island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education;

7. **Encourages** the United Nations to develop strategic partnerships with the range of stakeholders involved in sport, including sports organizations, sports associations and the private sector, to assist in the implementation of sport for development programmes;

8. **Encourages** Governments and the United Nations system to seek new and innovative ways to use sport for communication and social mobilization, particularly at the national, regional and local levels, engaging civil society through active participation and ensuring that target audiences are reached;

9. **Acknowledges** that the Olympic Games contribute to understanding between peoples and civilizations, and welcomes in this regard the contribution of the 2004 Olympic Games organized in Athens;

10. **Stresses** the need for all parties to cooperate closely with international sports bodies to elaborate a “code of good practice”;

11. **Invites** Governments to accelerate the elaboration of an international anti-doping convention in all sports activities, and requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, to coordinate the elaboration of such a convention;

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the year 2005, under the item entitled “International Year of Sport and Physical Education”.

42nd plenary meeting
27 October 2004
Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/58/L.2 and Add.1)]

58/5. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision to include in its agenda an item entitled “Sport for peace and development” and a sub-item thereof entitled “International Year of Sport and Physical Education”,

Considering the role of sport and physical education as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Taking note of the communique issued by the round table of ministers responsible for sports and physical education, held in Paris on 9 and 10 January 2003, in which they expressed their commitment to ensuring that the role of physical education and sport is fully recognized and developed,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children entitled “A world fit for children” stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children’s personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Recalling also the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Dakar

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1 See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Plenary Meetings, 2nd meeting (A/58/PV.2), and corrigendum.
2 Resolution 44/25, annex.
3 Resolution S-27/2, annex.
Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum in April 2000, as well as other relevant documents emphasizing the role of sport and physical education,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace,

Noting that sport and physical education in many countries face increasing marginalization within education systems even though they are a major tool not only for health and physical development but also for acquiring values necessary for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen and sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including, inter alia, child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping, and noting in this regard the Anti-Doping Convention established by the Council of Europe, the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-doping in Sport, adopted during the World Conference on Doping in Sport, held from 3 to 5 March 2003, and any other relevant international instrument,

1. Invites Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions:

(a) To promote the role of sport and physical education for all when furthering their development programmes and policies, to advance health awareness, the spirit of achievement and cultural bridging and to entrench collective values;

(b) To include sport and physical education as a tool to contribute towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the broader aims of development and peace;

(c) To work collectively so that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote a culture of peace and social and gender equality and to advocate dialogue and harmony;

(d) To recognize the contribution of sport and physical education towards economic and social development and to encourage the building and restoration of sports infrastructures;

(e) To further promote sport and physical education, on the basis of locally assessed needs, as a tool for health, education, social and cultural development;

(f) To strengthen cooperation and partnership between all actors, including family, school, clubs/leagues, local communities, youth sports associations and decision makers as well as the public and private sectors, in order to ensure complementarities and to make sport and physical education available to everyone;

6 Council of Europe, European Treaty Series, No. 135.
7 See resolution 55/2.
(g) To ensure that young talents can develop their athletic potential without any threat to their safety and physical and moral integrity;

2. **Encourages** Governments, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to elaborate and implement partnership initiatives and development projects compatible with the education provided at all levels of schooling to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

3. **Invites** Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education;

4. **Encourages** the United Nations to develop strategic partnerships with the range of stakeholders involved in sport, including sports organizations, sports associations and the private sector, to assist in the implementation of sport for development programmes;

5. **Encourages** Governments and the United Nations system to seek new and innovative ways to use sport for communication and social mobilization, particularly at the national, regional and local levels, engaging civil society through active participation and ensuring that target audiences are reached;

6. **Stresses** the need for all parties to cooperate closely with international sports bodies to elaborate a “code of good practice”;

7. **Invites** Governments to accelerate the elaboration of an international anti-doping convention in all sports activities, and requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, to coordinate the elaboration of such a convention;

8. **Decides** to proclaim 2005 as the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and invites Governments to organize events to underline their commitment and to seek the assistance of sports personalities in this regard;

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the preparation of events at the national and international levels to celebrate the year 2005, under the sub-item entitled “International Year of Sport and Physical Education”.

52nd plenary meeting
3 November 2003
FINAL REPORT

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SPORT
AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2005

UNited Nations
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace hereby presents the report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education to the United Nations Secretary-General. The General Assembly in resolution 58/5 of 3 November 2003, entitled “Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace”, recognized the positive values of sport and physical education and proclaimed the year 2005 as the International Year of Sport and Physical Education.

The International Year has clearly affirmed that sport and physical education in their broadest sense are essential components of the world’s efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. Sport and physical education offer a number of innovative approaches for achieving sustainable development, in combination with existing efforts, to accomplish specific targets such as those concerning poverty reduction, education, gender equality, and HIV/AIDS.

The present report describes just some of the international, regional and thousands of local projects initiated during the International Year, concretely establishing sport and physical education as tools for education, health, development and peace. 70 countries identified multi-stakeholder national committees or national focal points to plan, coordinate and implement national observance of the Year; in addition, 52 other countries reported on commemorative activities without having officially appointed such a national focal point; over 20 international and 18 regional conferences were held within the framework of the International Year; and thousands of initiatives have strengthened the role of sport and physical education as an integral dimension of the development and cooperation strategies of all stakeholders including sports organizations, athletes, multilateral organizations and the United Nations system, bilateral development agencies, Governments across all sectors, the armed forces, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and sports industry, research institutions and the media.

The United Nations has proved it has the ability to help Governments and communities harness the positive aspects of sport and channel them in a coordinated way. The Year illustrated the role of sport and physical education for a quality education with mandatory physical education recognized in a number of countries as a universal pillar to foster education, health and personal development. Sport and physical education have been recognized for the important role they play in improving public health; and sport as a universal language has been found to bridge social, religious, racial and gender divides, hence contributing to lasting peace.

The report documents resources invested, initiatives launched, research undertaken, and activities by millions of individuals who participated in events relating to the International Year which demonstrated that sport is a vital tool to make a better world.
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I. Introduction

1. In recognition of the initiatives undertaken globally commemorating the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005, the Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace reports on the International Year to the United Nations Secretary-General. This report will serve as the basis of a report to be submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/9 requesting the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of that resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the International Year, under the item entitled “Sport for peace and development”.

2. The report takes into account General Assembly resolution 58/5 entitled “Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace” of 3 November 2003 wherein 2005 was proclaimed as the International Year of Sport and Physical Education; the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/268) in which the overarching objective of the International Year was identified as the systematic integration of sport into existing activities, programmes and projects wherever relevant; General Assembly resolution 59/10 of 27 October 2004; the report of the Secretary-General (A/60/217); General Assembly resolution 60/1; General Assembly resolution 60/8 of 3 November 2005 urging Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually or collectively, during the 2006 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, held in Turin; and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67. Particular consideration is made of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled “A world fit for children”, stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children’s personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential.

3. The report indicates that the International Year has clearly affirmed that sport and physical education are fundamental vehicles for promoting education, health, development and peace as part of the overall effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Sport, as a universal language, can help bridge social, religious, racial and gender divides. The commemorative efforts undertaken during the year, as reflected in this report, particularly took into account certain negative aspects facing athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties.

4. As evidenced by the broad participation of Governments, the private sector, civil society and United Nations funds, programmes, and specialized agencies, the International Year is considered a full success. The present report addresses some of the activities and initiatives undertaken at the national, regional and international levels to strengthen the role of sport and physical education as an integral dimension of the development and cooperation strategies of Member States.
5. The International Year was a springboard for launching new, and strengthening existing, programmes using sport and physical education to achieve internationally recognized development goals such as the MDGs. The present report concludes by suggesting mechanisms to ensure that sport as a tool for development and peace is used in a coordinated and coherent manner and responds to needs identified at the local level; that projects implemented are sustainable; and that partnerships are expanded and strengthened, drawing fully on the expertise developed in this field by governmental organizations, as well as by vibrant civil society organizations with a sports focus.

II. Background

6. During the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005, an initiative of the Government of Tunisia, 70 countries worldwide appointed national focal points to coordinate commemorative events; in addition, 52 other countries reported on commemorative activities without having officially appointed national focal points. International conferences and consultations were organized by Governments, international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and research institutes. Activities within the International Year’s framework, many with the support of the United Nations system, aimed at following up on the recommendations of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace in its report entitled Sport for Development and Peace: Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goals, published in October 2003.

7. In achieving its objectives, the International Year built on the experience of the European Year of Education through Sport 2004. Although measuring the many dimensions of the success of the International Year is not easy, the present report documents resources invested, initiatives launched, research undertaken, and activities by millions of individuals who participated in events relating to the International Year which demonstrated that sport is a vital tool to make a better world.

III. Institutional arrangements

8. The decision of the General Assembly to observe an international year dedicated to sport and physical education required institutional arrangements to support the ideals and objectives proclaimed by the international community. These arrangements consolidated and built on the many efforts undertaken prior to the year in support of these ideals and objectives, and, in particular, focused commemoration of the International Year on long-term action to establish the role of sport and physical education as a tool for development and peace.

9. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 58/5, Mr. Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, proposed to the Secretary-General the establishment of the United Nations Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education. The establishment of the Office was approved by the Secretary-General in December 2003 and it was set up in May 2004. No financial request was made to the United Nations for the establishment of the Office; rather, its success has been dependent on the determination and will of all partners.
involved, on the financial assistance of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, following the establishment of a trust fund by the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), and on the support in kind of UNFIP and the United Nations Office at Geneva. A core objective of the Office for the International Year was the global coordination of the commemoration of the Year and the promotion of sport as a partner for development and peace, contributing to the achievement of the MDGs. The Office worked in close cooperation with the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace in Geneva. In October 2004, the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace was created with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assist the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace. The three offices worked together to advocate the power of sport in achieving identified goals and to facilitate and promote commemorative activities in connection with the Year.

10. The Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group, under the leadership of the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace, held regular meetings throughout 2005 among United Nations agencies and with other partners to maximize the impact of sport activities and programmes throughout the United Nations system, as detailed in its business plan. The Working Group helped promote commemorative activities for the International Year. A task force on resource mobilization was created within the Working Group with the aim of encouraging non-traditional partners and donors to support policies and activities through field projects and partnership programmes.

IV. The national and regional stage

A. National focal points

11. In accordance with the Economic and Social Council guidelines for the observance of international years, special attention was given to the role of Governments in the commemoration activities. Member States were invited by a note verbale from the Secretary-General to establish multi-stakeholder national committees or national focal points to plan, coordinate and implement national observance of the International Year. The valuable contribution of the United Nations Information Centres (UNICs) and the UNDP country offices in assisting in identification of a significant number of national focal points is recognized.

12. Action at the country level in coordinating and publicizing commemorative activities is testimony to the success of the International Year and has ensured that a growing network of Governments, organizations, groups and individuals around the world are made aware of sport and physical education’s vital role in contributing to education, health, development and peace. National focal points have been established in 70 countries, namely Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico,
Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu and Zambia. Beyond those countries which established national focal points, a further 52 countries have been particularly active in forwarding the objectives of the Year with reports on their activities made to the Office for the International Year.

13. All countries are encouraged to continue activities beyond 2005 to help develop and implement sustainable sporting and physical education programmes and policies designed to respond to the specific needs and conditions of their communities. The call for reporting on the International Year made by the Office for the International Year drew responses from many national focal points suggesting that national committees established for the Year had evolved – or were considering evolving – into permanent bodies.

14. It is beyond the scope of the present report to describe the multitude of events, activities and initiatives undertaken within the context of the International Year. Therefore, the following summary highlights the key areas of interest and priority themes, and presents a brief overview of activities held in various regions around the world during the Year.

B. Africa

15. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 19 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Africa, in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia.

16. Many projects were organized in partnership with United Nations agencies in various countries throughout the continent. For example, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) organized nature and sports camps for children in slum areas in Nairobi. In Sierra Leone, a United Nations inter-agency sport pilot project proposal was formulated which called for the inclusion of sport-based elements into currently implemented development programmes.

17. Round tables and workshops were held in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger and Nigeria. Following the Next Step II Conference in Zambia, the President of the Republic of Zambia announced the re-introduction of physical education into the mandatory school curriculum as a pillar to foster education, health and personal development.

18. Mass-participation running and walking races in Cameroon, the Comoros, Ghana, Kenya, Mali and Togo met their objectives of sensitizing the population about the benefits of sport and physical activity for all.
19. Special events and festivals were held in Cameroon, Lesotho and Mauritius. Ghana adopted a slogan, “Sport For Life”, and in Seychelles a national theme, “Our Children, Our Treasure, Our Future” was used in the context of the International Year. Sport was used as a tool in Liberia to raise awareness to help protect children from HIV/AIDS. In South Africa, the University of Pretoria adopted a declaration of support for the Year.

20. Many NGOs are active in Africa promoting sport and physical education as a tool for education, health, development and peace. As an example, Sport – The Bridge has been active in Ethiopia and established the “Ethiopia – Sport Builds Bridges” project for socializing street children in Addis Ababa. In Kenya, the Kenyan Community Foundation has undertaken a number of activities throughout the country. The following NGOs, Alive and Kicking Kenya, Play Soccer, Right To Play, and the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation have used sports as a mobilizing tool to build trust among warring communities and promote public awareness.

C. Asia and the Pacific

21. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 14 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Asia and the Pacific, in the following countries: Australia, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

22. Throughout the region numerous activities were undertaken in commemoration of the International Year including: communication tools such as websites created in Australia and Bhutan; a mass-participation run in India; an annual Push Play Day to celebrate and promote physical activity in New Zealand; a table tennis tournament with the theme “Sports for Health and Happiness” in Bhutan; and the Tour of Qinghai Lake International Road Cycling Race in China. In recognition of their efforts in overcoming regional tension and encouraging peaceful relations, the national cricket teams of India and Pakistan were appointed spokespersons for the Year.

23. Conferences commemorating the International Year were held in India, Malaysia, Pakistan and Samoa. Thailand hosted the International Conference on Sport and Education in Bangkok. The 2005 Arafura Games International Sport Conference “Celebrating Sport and Culture” was held in Darwin, Australia.

24. In reaction to the devastating tsunami of December 2004, the international sporting community held a number of activities rallying support, including round tables in Switzerland and Thailand.

25. Australia dedicated numerous public awareness-raising activities to the commemoration of the International Year, such as the Australian Youth Olympic Festival, and the Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program. The 2005 Australian University Games were the first official Australian sporting event to be endorsed by the United Nations for their role in instilling the values of fair play, peaceful competition and the pursuit of excellence.
D. Europe

26. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 20 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Europe, in the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

27. With 2004 being the European Year of Education through Sport, activities commemorating the International Year of Sport and Physical Education tended to build on those already commenced, enabling consolidation of initiatives on sport as a tool for education, with additional initiatives also undertaken on sport for health, development and peace. Throughout 2005, contacts with the European Union continued, enabling evaluation and dissemination of best practices of European projects throughout the region. A study by OXFAM GB found that the Indian Ocean tsunami had taken the life of four times as many women as men. Therefore, development projects such as Austria’s “Women Swimming into the Future: promoting and strengthening women in the South Asian Tsunami region” were initiated. The Government of Ireland supported an “Active School Initiative”, an initiative that was first introduced as part of the European Year of Education through Sport and is being continued during 2006 to create a link between the European Year and the International Year. The European Parliament, in its resolution on sport and development adopted on 1 December 2005 welcomed the International Year and emphasized that sports projects can be a cross-cutting means of building capacity in education, health in general, HIV/AIDS prevention and peace-building and to combat social exclusion, violence, inequalities, including gender inequality, racism and xenophobia.

28. A number of conferences took place throughout Europe in the framework of the International Year including: a round table on inclusion and sports participation in the European Union and the European Commission’s Consultation Conference with the European Sport Movement on the Social Function of Sport, Volunteering in Sport and the Fight against Doping, in Belgium; the European Association for Sport Management’s “Power of Sport Congress” in the United Kingdom; the XVIIth European Sports Conference, in Greece; a symposium on the meaning of sport science for the political decision-making process in Germany; “The EU and Sport: Matching Expectations”, in Belgium; “The International Year of Sport and Physical Education” Congress in Spain; and “Cooperation of governmental and non-governmental organizations in the field of ‘Sport for All’ development”, in Serbia and Montenegro. The Conference of the Youth and Sports Ministers of French-speaking Countries and the first meeting of European government experts on the topic “Sport and disability”, were held in France. The Church and Sport Section of the Holy See organized its first ever seminar on the theme “The Christian mission in the field of sport today".
29. Mass-participation sporting events were held in Albania, Belarus, Italy and the Russian Federation. Events linking sport with development and peace were held in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Poland and Serbia and Montenegro. Charity football events were held during the year in Barcelona (Spain), Innsbruck (Austria) and Munich (Germany), and the 16th Vienna-Budapest Super Marathon was held under the theme “Run without borders”.

30. Many European countries have been involved in sports and physical education projects that contribute to education, health, development and peace in developing countries. For example, the Finnish governmental organization, Liike, has been involved with schools in the United Republic of Tanzania. France provided financial support to the NGO, Sport Sans Frontières (Sport without borders) to contribute to improving the situation of deprived children and women through sport and promoting national reconciliation in Afghanistan and Kosovo. UK Sport, together with the Norwegian Sports Confederation and National Olympic Committee, supported the Next Step II Conference in Zambia, and the Kicking AIDS Out! courses in Malawi. Austria used sport in development projects such as “Rwanda: kicking for reconciliation in Kigali”.

31. In Switzerland, thousands of initiatives were undertaken to commemorate the International Year both within the country and around the world. Financial assistance facilitated the work of Mr. Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace and former President of the Swiss Confederation. A National Committee composed of different federal offices and other institutions was formed to create nationally coordinated promotional programmes under the leadership and coordination of the Federal Office of Sport. Eight nationally coordinated promotional programmes were initiated including the “Schools on the move” project which made nearly 30,000 children from all over Switzerland physically active every day. A “Constitutional Run” from district to district was held in Zurich. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Pestalozzi Children’s Foundation (PCF) and the Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 hosted the International Youth “Play for Peace” Camp. A working group was set up that supports sport and development projects worldwide.

32. Public-awareness initiatives and promotional activities took place throughout Europe. In commemoration of the International Year, a number of Internet platforms were established, inter alia, in Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Spain and Switzerland. Hyperlinks to the United Nations International Year website from countries’ websites were set up in Finland and the United Kingdom. France disseminated information on United Nations activities and the objectives of the Year in booklets, posters, and advertisements. In Germany, the Ministry of Interior launched a public poster campaign about the Year, emphasizing that sport and physical activity are possible for all. Latvia’s poster campaign was launched under the theme “Sport and education: one language”. In Austria, projects were initiated such as “Female athletes as role models for girls and women”. A gymnastics and sports association team from Denmark toured 20 countries and widely disseminated documentation on the Year and
the use of sport for education, health, development and peace. In Finland, in partnership with the Finnish United Nations Association and a number of NGOs, the UNDP Nordic Office organized the “Sauna Bus” Tour to promote the Year, the MDGs, and the United Nations sixtieth anniversary celebrations. The United Kingdom is preparing a “Sport for Development” evaluation manual. The Netherlands held an extensive campaign with the Dutch governmental agency NCDO in collaboration with approximately 30 Dutch organizations to spread the message of the Year that reached around 2.5 million people in the Netherlands.

33. United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies collaborated with local partners to organize events using the International Year’s logo in Albania, Armenia, Belarus and Bulgaria. With the support of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo, the Year proved an excellent platform from which to launch sport-based projects aimed at young people, contributing to a more peaceful society.

E. Latin America and the Caribbean

34. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, eight national focal points were appointed for the International Year in Latin America and the Caribbean in the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay and Trinidad and Tobago.


36. The Trinidad and Tobago Alliance for Sport and Physical Education, in collaboration with other local and regional stakeholders, held several activities in commemoration of the International Year including an international sport and physical education convention; a mass-participation Jump Rope for Heart programme; and continuation of a Youth Empowerment through Sport programme. A commemorative music video was produced to promote the theme of the Year in the Caribbean.

37. During the International Year, activities in Argentina, Belize, Chile, Costa Rica and Mexico focused on public-awareness activities, workshops and international forums. The Government of Brazil, through sport-based special programmes such as “Segundo Tempo” and “Pintando a Liberdade”, sought to address deprivation and social problems. Currently, about one million people take part in the “Segundo Tempo” programme throughout Brazil.

38. The town of Medellin in Colombia hosted events including an international “Football for peace” tournament organized by the NGO Streetfootballworld, and “26 hours of athletics” to celebrate sport’s social contributions in offering alternatives for young people to risks such as violence, drugs and alcohol.
F. Middle East and North Africa

39. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, eight national focal points were appointed for the International Year in the Middle East and North Africa, in the following countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

40. As with other regions throughout the world, public-awareness activities concerning the International Year were evident in the Middle East and North Africa. Tunisia, as initiator of the Year, carried out an "Awareness Campaign" about the benefits of sport and physical education. The Government of Tunisia, with the support of UNDP, organized an international conference on sport and health, aimed at highlighting the critical role of sport in health promotion; the Arab Conference on Sport and Education; a Sport and Development Conference; and various events in connection with labour, education and youth.

41. Israel organized public-relations campaigns, including the distribution to all schools of posters with the official logo of the International Year and held "National Physical Education" weeks. Morocco organized activities under the slogan "Sport for all, together for a better world" and stamps were issued commemorating the Year. The Islamic Republic of Iran’s sports radio channel broadcast comprehensive sport and health programmes making it one of the most successful radio channels in 2005. In Algeria, open days within sporting federations were organized to highlight sport and physical education.

42. Throughout the Middle East and North Africa, conferences and workshops were held publicizing the United Nations objectives for the International Year. The Wingate Institute, Israel’s National Center for Physical Education and Sport, hosted the Fourth Post-Olympic Conference. The Third West Asian Games 2005 were held in Qatar. Yemen successfully hosted the Third Asian Conference on Women and Sport. A conference on the value of sport in human development and a national seminar on women and sport were held in Oman. Morocco hosted the 68th Annual Congress of the International Sports Press Association, a workshop on the empowerment of sports educators, and the Second Pan-African Youth Leadership Summit that highlighted the power of sport in advancing health, education and development while promoting tolerance and peace.

43. Sport activities in Bahrain showed great improvement in 2005 due to the Government’s willingness to increase significantly the budget for the development of sport and youth activities with six world-class sports championships hosted in Bahrain in 2005. In Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kuwait, activities related to the International Year included workshops, games, national festivals and running events. The Islamic Republic of Iran National Olympic and Paralympics Academy carried out approximately 150 educational programmes in which 11,000 people participated. Advisers to the National Olympic Committee of Iraq have
advocated for social responsibility and public diplomacy to be at the heart of the Committee’s sport development strategy.

G. North America

44. In Canada, hundreds of special events and celebrations were held over the course of the International Year. These activities were posted on the website of the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD). A Canadian Year of Sport and Physical Education logo was developed, disseminated widely and integrated into promotional material, conference themes and special events. As a culminating event for the International Year, CAHPERD hosted a National Physical Education Forum, “Time to Listen/Time to Learn/Time to Act”, in Ontario. Canada also hosted the 2005 Congress of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women, “Learning to lead: women’s influence on policy and practice in physical education and sport”.

45. The United States of America hosted a number of major athletic events and a conference on gender and women in sports that helped forge constructive partnerships within the international community. The United States National Paralympic Academy hosted a biennial, two-day celebration of Paralympic sport for youth with physical disabilities.

V. The international stage

A. United Nations activities and initiatives

46. The world of sport is a natural partner for the United Nations system and should be included in efforts to cultivate a “global partnership for development” – the eighth MDG. Sport provides an innovative avenue to engage civil society in development initiatives. United Nations organizations have used the International Year to highlight and encourage the use of sport in international development programmes and projects.

47. The United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace and the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group drafted a business plan that is intended to provide the United Nations system with a blueprint for promoting more systematic and coherent use of sport for development and peace activities, especially in conjunction with efforts to achieve the MDGs. To publicize and promote United Nations sport for development and peace activities and programmes, and in commemoration of International Year, the New York Office is producing a fortnightly electronic Sport Bulletin. The Bulletin, available in English, French and Spanish, is posted on the International Year for Sport and Physical Education website and circulated to United Nations offices worldwide and to several thousand other partners working with Governments, sports and other organizations, the private sector, academia and the media.

48. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been progressively strengthening its links with sporting events and personalities, as a means of increasing awareness of the issues of hunger
and poverty among a wide audience, especially youth. A number of international sports personalities have been nominated as FAO Goodwill Ambassadors, who have been particularly instrumental in promoting the FAO TeleFood program during 2005.

49. The International Labour Organization (ILO) is involved in local development and youth insertion through sport and training, particularly in El Salvador, Mozambique and Senegal. The ILO Youth Sport Program puts sport partners and sport values at the centre of a process that allows development and sports institutions to assess their needs and to pool efforts, resources and capacities in partnership to meet these needs.

50. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has joined forces with the International Cricket Council with the primary aim of using cricket to raise public awareness of HIV and AIDS in the cricket-playing world, which accounts for some of the countries that are hardest hit by the epidemic.

51. In January 2005, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) hosted the first Global Workshop on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Sports for Development Programmes. At the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) Confederations Cup Germany 2005, UNICEF and FIFA engaged in a global communications campaign “With Children We Win”, using football as a universal language to help bridge divides and promote core values for lasting peace, non-violence and tolerance. The UNICEF-FIFA campaign uses a football coaches’ manual to help address the issue of violence and discrimination. UNICEF and the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football signed a partnership pledge to benefit children in Latin America and the Caribbean. The International Olympic Committee, the Indian National Olympic Committee, UNICEF, UNAIDS and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) jointly hosted a workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention through sport, encouraging partnerships at the local level between National Olympic Committees and UNICEF country offices focused on sports for development. Recognizing the need for greater integration and collaboration around its approach to sports partnerships, UNICEF convened a strategic working group on sport to develop an integrated global framework on sport. In addition, with funds donated by Swatch, UNICEF and several partners expanded a national sports programme in Rwanda focused on HIV/AIDS and education.

52. The United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) circulated information on the International Year to all United Nations agencies through the United Nations Communications Group and to the public through United Nations information centres worldwide. The DPI News and Media Division covers United Nations sport-related initiatives on the United Nations Web-based news service, the United Nations family audio-visual page and other outlets. It has also assisted in setting up and maintaining a website for the Year. The Year was publicized by international broadcasters, and a French distributor, Tele Images International, promoted the Year in an animated series of 26 half-hour programmes on street football. The series was aired in over 100 countries around the world and its stories
and characters were used in several products including books, comics, a DVD, a music single and album, clothes and bedding which convey the United Nations message about sport’s values. These are to be released between February and June 2006.

53. Within the framework of the International Year, UNDP entered into a partnership with the NGO Right To Play agreeing to collaborate in three priority areas: (a) organization and follow-up to the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group; (b) knowledge sharing and exchange in the area of sport for development, with the objective to promote further the inclusion of sport for development in national development programmes and policies; and (c) exploration of future areas of cooperation in the area of sport for development. In further support of the work of the Working Group, UNDP accepted its chairmanship at the inaugural meeting in May 2005, and has actively participated in its work to date. UNDP has supported extensive programming activities throughout the Year across all regional groupings, including in Belarus, Chile, Finland, Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Ukraine.

54. During the International Year, UNEP played an active role in the Sport and Environment Commission of the International Olympic Committee and supported the Committee in organizing regional seminars on sport and the environment in Dubai, Lusaka and Nairobi. An agreement was signed by UNEP and the Beijing Organizing Committee of the XXIX Olympiad aimed at making the summer Olympics of 2008 environmentally friendly.

55. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) played a key role in encouraging commemoration of the International Year. Several countries launched Global Action Weeks or special days, as a tool, for example, to promote traditional sports and games (Oman). Sport and physical education became a defined key component of quality education in Jamaica and Thailand. The educational dimension, health issues, scientific research and studies, doping, fair play and national programmes on sport and physical education were the core components of activities to which public authorities, development agencies, specialized agencies and sport and physical education staff unions and professionals dedicated their mobilization efforts to raise awareness and advocate the key objectives of the Year. The unanimous adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport by the 33rd session of the UNESCO General Conference on 19 October 2005 is recognized as a significant achievement of the Year.

56. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), through its municipal youth development programmes, has been working with sport and recreation organizations in slum areas to help inform young people about HIV/AIDS and reproductive health and to offer alternatives to drugs and crime.

57. As in the past ten years, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has continued to run sports activities in refugee camps, mostly in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, in partnership with sports-oriented donors such as the International Olympic Committee, Right To Play, Nike and the international volleyball, badminton and
basketball federations, with a view to enabling UNHCR to expand its sports programmes further. Plans for a joint United Nations inter-agency pilot project in Sierra Leone are well under way. The Together for Girls project has been continued in Dadaab, Kenya, throughout the International Year using sports as a tool to promote the integration and retention of women in the educational system.

58. The United Nations Millennium Campaign reached out to sporting celebrities, associations and clubs in 2005 across all Campaign offices, most notably in Europe, where the FC Barcelona Foundation and Juventus Turin worked with the Campaign to promote the MDGs at a special football match on 24 August.

59. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) year-long campaign was launched on 23 June focusing on sports and health. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, on 26 June, had the theme “Value yourself ... make healthy choices” and included involvement in sports.

60. Events in 2005 organized by the United Nations Programme on Youth offered opportunities for highlighting linkages between youth and sport for development and peace. Through consultative meetings and in response to a booklet entitled Making Commitments Matter: a Toolkit for young people to evaluate national youth policy, young people contributed to the ten-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth.

61. The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has recently been an operational partner in a project in Sri Lanka with the aim of boosting awareness of volunteerism and the MDGs and to foster cultural dialogue; on a volunteerism against violence project in collaboration with UN-Habitat and UNDP in Madagascar; and a project on youth and sports for development in refugee communities in Ghana. UNV will be one of the implementing partners in the joint United Nations inter-agency pilot project in Sierra Leone. In a speech at the launch of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Volunteer Programme in 2005, the UNV Executive Coordinator linked the spirit of the Olympics to that of volunteerism.

62. The World Health Organization (WHO) undertook several normative projects, technical meetings and related activities directly linked to the International Year in cooperation with various partners at all levels. These actions, such as guidelines for physical activity policy and programme development and for promoting physical activity and sport for young people in and out of schools, are carried out in the context of WHO work in health promotion, integrated prevention/control of non-communicable diseases, implementation of the WHO Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, and achievement of the MDGs. Their implementation along with new ones will be pursued during the 2006–2007 biennium. The Global Annual Move for Health Day/Initiative, held on 10 May (or other dates selected by each country), and its website developed in March 2005, will facilitate sustainability of worldwide collective actions to promote and strengthen physical activity and sport for education, health, development and peace.
B. Major international conferences and events

63. Following the proclamation of the International Year, a number of international events were initiated to increase awareness of the value of sport and physical education for the promotion of the core themes of education, health, development and peace. The declarations that have emerged from over 20 international and 18 regional conferences organized within the framework of the International Year, reflect the firm conviction of the stakeholders involved in the importance of sport for a better world.

64. **Sport and health**: A major outcome of the International Year has been the adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport. This is the first time a legal instrument aimed at eradicating doping has been both binding and universal. The Hammamet Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Sport and Health in Tunisia reaffirmed the role of sport and physical education for the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles.

65. **Sport and education**: Participants at the International Conference on Sport and Education in Thailand agreed on the Bangkok Agenda for Action on Physical Education and Sport in School, in which Member States are encouraged to make it mandatory for every school to provide all students with adequate time for physical education and sport on a weekly basis.

66. **Sport and development**: An international workshop on sport for development was held at the end of 2004 in Switzerland. An International Conference on Sport and Urban Development was held in the Netherlands. The Next Step II Conference, “Taking sport for development home”, in Zambia was attended by the BBC World Service Trust and resulted in a media event which reached over 20 million listeners across Africa.

67. The report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace clearly identified youth as one of the greatest beneficiaries of the effects of sport. Therefore, the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace organized a Youth Leadership Summit series which highlighted sport as an entry point for mobilizing youth to bolster efforts to achieve the MDGs and promote tolerance and peace. Pan-African, Pan-Asian, and Latin American and Caribbean Youth Leadership Summits were held, respectively, in Senegal (2004), Morocco (2005); Japan (2004); and Brazil (2005). The regional summits will culminate in a Global Youth Leadership Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 30 October to 1 November 2006.

68. As a culmination of the International Year, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Swiss Federal Office of Sports and the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace organized the 2nd Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development in Switzerland attended by over 400 participants from 70 countries. A Call to Action was adopted which led sport and development to the next stage emphasizing the need for global partnerships to be increased and strengthened. Partners at different levels will come together again in
October 2008 in Magglingen, Switzerland, to share results and validate the impact.

69. Sport and peace: The use of sport as a means to promote intercultural, post-conflict and peacebuilding dialogues was highlighted at several international conferences and events particularly at the International Conference on Sport and Peace in the Russian Federation.

70. Sporting events commemorating the International Year were organized around the globe, including the first Islamic Solidarity Games; the Homeless World Cup 2005; the fifth Francophone Games; the Everest Peace Project; and the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation World Games.

71. Various other international conferences on issues pertinent to the International Year were held in 2005 including: the fourth international world communication conference on sport and society, “Play the Game – Governance in Sport: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” in Denmark; an International Conference on Sports and Development, in Norway; the International Forum Sports and Development: Economy, Culture, Ethics in Germany; “Celebrating Sport and Culture” in Darwin; an International Seminar on the Quality of Physical Education and Sport, in Benin; the “Sport and Joy” Conference in Italy; the SportAccord conference in Germany; and the 2nd World Summit on Physical Education in Switzerland.

72. Two major international summits on sport and the environment were held during the International Year, including the Sports Summit for the Environment, in Japan at which participants pledged to reduce pollution and enrich the natural environment so future generations might enjoy sports as they are enjoyed today, and the Sixth World Conference on Sport and Environment, in Kenya organized by the International Olympic Committee with the support of UNEP and held at UNEP headquarters.

73. The International Paralympic Committee hosted two Women in Sport Leadership Summits. Kennesaw State University, in the United States, and the ILO Universitas programme hosted the International Summit: Effecting Social Change Through Women’s Leadership in Sport. The Summit addressed such topics as promoting gender equality, empowering women, and developing global partnerships related to education and sports. The conference outcome was a centre on social changes through women leadership in sports based at Kennesaw State University.

C. International partnerships and initiatives

Intergovernmental initiatives

74. At the 2005 World Summit held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in September, over 170 Heads of States and Government adopted General Assembly resolution 60/1 paragraph 145 of which underlines that sports can foster peace and development and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and encourages discussions in the Assembly for proposals leading to a plan of action on sport and development.
75. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace was initiated by the Government of Switzerland among permanent representatives to the United Nations in New York in January 2005. The Group serves as an intergovernmental platform aiming to encourage Member States to integrate sport actively into their international cooperation and development policies through the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions and to work together with the different United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as with the Office for the International Year and the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace. The Group is co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Switzerland and Tunisia, and includes representatives from Austria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, India, Mali, Norway, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand and the United Kingdom. The Group met regularly during 2005 and plans to expand its activities in 2006.

76. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group was announced by the NGO, Right To Play, at the 2004 summer Olympic Games in Athens, at a round table co-sponsored by UNFIP. Chaired by UNDP, the Working Group is supported by Government leaders, United Nations experts, Olympic athletes and sports federations, with the overall goal to contribute, through a set of recommendations, to systematic mainstreaming of sport into national and international development strategies and programmes. These recommendations will be presented at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, encouraging Governments to address the issue of sport for development and peace when formulating national and international development policies.

**Governmental organizations for development and international cooperation**

77. The outstanding role of governmental organizations in the field of development cooperation using sport and physical education as a tool for development and peace must be highlighted, particularly those in Austria, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. As a core group of similar entities, these organizations, through identification of needs in various countries around the world and the financing and organization of projects and initiatives, have made a major contribution to the advancement of the objectives of the International Year. During the Year an important contribution was made to gender equality by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, who passed recommendation 1701 on discrimination against women and girls in sport.

**Non-governmental organizations and the private sector**

78. Several notable global initiatives and many existing projects and programmes received additional impetus as a result of the International Year, for example, ExChange for Peace, Fundación Defensores del Chaco, Global Sports Alliance, the International Sport and Culture Association, International Working Group on Women and Sport, Kick Forward, Kicking AIDS Out!, Laureus, Magic Bus, the Mathare Youth Sports Association, Peres Center for Peace, Playing for Peace, Play Soccer, Red Deporte y Cooperación, Sports
Coaches Outreach, Sport Sans Frontières, Streetfootballworld, Street League, WomenSport International and Youth Charter, organizations which predominantly use street football as an educational tool in projects that promote self-esteem and intercultural understanding. Nike became the first in its industry to voluntarily disclose the names and locations of more than 700 active contract factories that currently make Nike-branded products worldwide in a publicly available Corporate Responsibility Report. The company intends to continue to use sport as a tool for positive social change. The NGO Right To Play has been using sport and play programmes to encourage the healthy physical, social and emotional development of the world's most disadvantaged children in partnership with United Nations agencies, Governments and sports federations and organizations.

Sports associations and federations

79. The International Year proved that international sports federations and organizations and the sport manufacturing industry are increasingly willing to become involved in humanitarian actions. Many federations provided reports on activities commemorating the Year indicating their contributions to humanitarian causes and the hosting of a number of seminars and events which have contributed to the validation and acceptance of sport and physical education as a tool in development work.

80. Partnership programmes were launched as an imperative step towards enabling a coordinated and coherent approach to the use of sport and physical education. In particular, sports federations, associations and organizations raised funds for natural disasters such as the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 and the earthquake in Pakistan in 2005.

81. Links to the United Nations International Year website were made from a number of international federation websites.

82. The International Olympic Committee (IOC), which had already been instrumental in the proclamation of 1994 as the International Year of Sport and the Olympic Ideal when the Committee celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its creation, participated actively in developing activities for the commemoration of the International Year. In October 2005, the Committee and UNAIDS produced a toolkit for the sports community on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention.

83. In 2005, FIFA established a Corporate Social Responsibility Department in recognition of the importance of being a socially responsible organization. A celebrity football match was organised by FIFA in Barcelona to raise funds for victims of the tsunami. FIFA's short-term response for tsunami relief has included promoting play to help overcome trauma, and distributing equipment. Medium-term relief includes restarting football activities with financial support and long-term assistance includes the reconstruction and rebuilding of football structures and facilities. In 2005, UNICEF, FIFA and the South American Football Federation officially launched "Los chicos siempre ganan!" (Teenagers/adolescents always win!), intended to promote youth rights.
84. The President of the International Paralympic Committee signed a partnership agreement between the Committee and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace; the Committee hosted the International Paralympic Day in Bonn, Germany; and organized a Healthy Paralympians project in Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Significant contributions were made and support given in honour of the International Year by the Committee to the article in the draft United Nations Convention on the Rights and Dignities of Persons with a Disability, which relates to the right to leisure, recreation and sports.

85. In the immediate follow-up to the International Year, the Secretary-General, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, and the presidents of FIFA and the IOC attended the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, at an event dedicated to sport for development and peace. For the first time, the World Economic Forum brought together leaders from the world of sport to discuss sport’s role in improving the state of the world and to plan new initiatives. The Secretary-General and his Special Adviser also visited the headquarters of the IOC in Lausanne and FIFA in Zurich to discuss ways to strengthen collaboration.

D. Global communications and public-awareness activities

86. The International Year was launched on 5 November 2004 at United Nations Headquarters in New York by the Secretary-General. At the event, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace named top-ranked tennis star Roger Federer and marathon champion Margaret Okayo, as spokespersons to promote the objectives of the Year. In 2005, the national cricket teams of India and Pakistan were also appointed spokespersons for the Year.

87. A number of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies have worked successfully with the world of sport in the area of communications and awareness-raising on key issues through global and local efforts. A concept document including a CD-ROM, detailing the reasons behind the proclamation of 2005 as the International Year was published by the Office for the International Year.

88. Public information units of United Nations system organizations and DPI, in cooperation with various Governments and NGOs, advocated the International Year by distributing information and using its official logo during sports-related activities and events. The official website of the International Year, created in close collaboration with DPI, was launched to foster cross-sectoral fertilization, promote country-level action and improve national and international networking and reporting. A number of countries such as Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Switzerland established their own websites dedicated to the Year. Other countries provided a hyperlink from their sports ministry’s website to that of the Year. These included Australia, Austria, Bhutan, Canada, Finland, Iraq, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, and the United Kingdom. The Sport and Development International Platform website, financed by Switzerland, is dedicated entirely to sport and development.
89. The UNODC Global Youth Network, in cooperation with Right To Play issued a CD-ROM, a *Coach es' Guide for Using Sport to Teach Healthy Life Skills* which used the International Year logo and that of the UNODC 2005 campaign.

90. A brief introductory video in English was produced by a private sponsor and translated into three languages: Arabic, French and Spanish. Furthermore, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the International Volleyball Federation and UNHCR produced videos to increase further media outreach for the International Year.

91. An unprecedented amount of media attention was accorded to the issue of sport and physical education during the International Year. Globally, all forms of media provided impulsion and awareness to activities and initiatives commemorating the Year. A number of media interviews were held throughout the Year with a particular focus on the Swiss media.

92. Marketing tools were provided by the Swiss Committee for the International Year, with financing by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, in the form of stickers, flags, wrist warmers, caps and cushions.

93. A major product of the International Year has been the promotion and distribution of the international *Toolkit Sport for Development* available in CD-ROM or online. The *Toolkit* was a national initiative of the Netherlands Government-supported international development and cooperation agency NCDO, the Netherlands Olympic Committee and Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. From mid-September to mid-October, the International Paralympic Committee and Magnum Photos provided use of photos for an exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

E. Research initiatives and publications

94. A number of research initiatives and publications were made during the International Year that have contributed to the consolidation of sport and physical education's role in education, health, development and peace, and that have enhanced understanding of the need for interdisciplinary research and information sharing to enable accountable monitoring and evaluation of projects to take place. Comprehensive reporting on sporting projects including the exchange of research results, approaches and experiences must continue.

95. Products from the United Kingdom included a paper published by UK Sport and the International Business Leaders Forum, *Shared Goals: Sport and business in partnerships for development*, aimed at encouraging the private sector to use sport in community projects for health and development; a paper that outlined how sport is now recognized as an important, powerful and under-exploited tool for development in post-conflict reconstruction; and a research tool, the Value of Sport Monitor. UK Sport and UNICEF have also commissioned the publication of a monitoring and evaluation manual for sport in development projects intended to contribute to increased organizational sustainability and programme effectiveness. The International Paralympic Committee, the United Nations and the International Council of
Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) promoted research on a number of topics concerned with sport for people living with a disability and the Paralympic Movement. ICSSPE published the sixth volume of its book series, *Perspectives*, on the topic of *Health Enhancing Physical Activity*. It explains why physical activity is important for public health, what kind and how much physical activity provides health benefits, and how to change physical activity behaviour. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation published a book, *Sport for Development and Peace*, providing an overview of the main themes, demonstrating opportunities and limitations, and outlining possibilities for future endeavours. A cross-European research project was published, “Sport media and stereotypes – women and men in sports and media”, which promoted change in gendered stereotypes in sports by raising awareness among influential target groups. ILO research has examined how youth leadership and skills development can be fostered through sports. ILO will publish a book on these findings entitled *Beyond the Scoreboard* in April 2006. The University of Basel, Switzerland, published *International Comparison of Physical Education: Concepts, Problems, Prospects* in recognition of the fact that in recent years, school physical education has been confronted with serious challenges in a large number of countries and regions.

**VI. Achievements**

96. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, the International Year contributed to a better understanding of the value of sport and physical education for human development and a more systematic use of sport in development programmes. Evaluation of the Year shows that activities generated during 2005 are in many instances to be integrated into regular programmes. There has been awareness-raising about the benefits of sport and physical education in social and educational programmes, consciousness-raising campaigns and endeavours strengthened with concrete actions. Actors have been involved who had not participated prior to the Year.

97. The International Year provided a unique opportunity to use the convening power of sport to capture the attention of and mobilize individuals, organizations, communities and the public at large. It facilitated delivery of messages and programmes to a wide range of people at local, national, regional and global levels, drawing diverse groups together in a positive and supportive environment.

98. The perception of “sport” by the general public and at the Government level was expanded, emphasizing the notion of “sport for all” and promoting the inclusion of marginalized populations, including women and girls. Programmes promoting sport for development and peace have gained greater attention and resources from Governments, civil society and private-sector partners globally.

99. The International Year illustrated the importance of sport and physical education for quality education and brought to light that physical education is continuously losing ground in formal education systems and that it is imperative that young people gain an appreciation of sport at school in order to ensure lifelong active and healthy living.
100. The private sector in the form of sports organizations, federations and providers of sporting goods has embraced the multi-stakeholder approach advocated during the International Year. Private-public partnerships have been established with United Nations agencies and increased information sharing has been enabled at all levels.

VII. Conclusion

101. The International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 highlighted the significant role that sport can play in accelerating progress towards the achievement of the MDGs by 2015 and added strong impetus to efforts to mainstream sport into existing development and peace programmes.

102. Over 100 international and thousands of local projects were initiated during the International Year, concretely establishing sport and physical education as tools for education, health, development and peace. Sport was identified as: (a) being integral to quality education with mandatory physical education recognized in a number of countries as a universal pillar to foster education, health and personal development; (b) improving public health; (c) an important element for achieving sustainable development; (d) a vehicle for achieving equality, including gender equality and women’s empowerment; and (e) contributing to lasting peace.

103. The dialogue about sport has been widened and the positive values of sport have been promoted. This momentum must be sustained and advocacy and social mobilization strengthened. Sport has demonstrated that, in conjunction with humanitarian and development activities, it can contribute to a powerful synergy to raise public awareness and mobilize support and resources.

104. The International Year has proved that coordinated and coherent approaches are necessary for using sport as a tool to address locally identified needs. The regular meetings of the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group are an essential forum to foster communication and cooperation among United Nations agencies and other partners. Member States are encouraged to participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, to include sport actively in their international cooperation and development policies, and to work with the various United Nations specialized agencies. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group has provided a platform during the Year to enable Member States to coordinate objectives, ideas and events to further the objectives of sport for development and peace.

105. Close collaboration will be maintained with UNFIP to strengthen relations with the private sector and non-traditional partners and donors, to support policies and activities through field projects and partnership programmes. Continued collaboration is recommended between the United Nations and international-day organizers such as WHO and the World Heart Federation.
106. A long-term commitment and determination must be made to making sport in its broadest sense an essential component of the world’s efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. Sport, with due attention to cultural and traditional dimensions, is resolved to be used to promote education, health, development and peace. In so doing, respect is upheld for the principles of human rights – especially youth and child rights – human diversity, gender equality, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

107. The continued establishment and development of sports-related national focal points, committees, and other multi-stakeholder mechanisms at the national level to benefit development and peace in society through the use of sport are encouraged. National governments are encouraged to apply the principle of subsidiarity by delegating political decisions to the lowest possible level of decision-making. Capacity building and education programs to enhance awareness of good practices in the use of sport and physical education for education, health, development and peace must continue to be developed. In doing so, stakeholders should give particular attention to the notion of “sport for all” and should ensure that gender perspectives are incorporated into all actions and initiatives.

108. As the culminating event to the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 and drawing together the results of the Year, the Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development presents a call to all stakeholders for the use of sport and physical education across the broad themes identified in General Assembly resolution 58/5. The various stakeholders are called upon to take the following actions to sustain the momentum created by the International Year: 

- **Sports organizations**: to integrate and implement sustainable development principles into their policies, programs and projects;
- **Athletes**: to act as role models and actively use their influence and experience to advocate for development and peace;
- **Multilateral organizations and the UN system**: to take a lead role in policy dialogue on strategic and global levels; raise the awareness of international actors and other partners; strengthen networks and enhance coordination; and carry out and evaluate projects and programs;
- **Bilateral development agencies**: to integrate sport in development cooperation policies and programs; and implement and evaluate projects and programs;
- **Governments across all sectors**: to promote the ideal of sport for all; develop inclusive and coherent sports policies; involve all stakeholders in their coordination and implementation; strengthen and invest in sport and physical education in schools and educational systems; and integrate sport, physical activity and play in public health and other relevant policies;
- **Armed forces**: to use sport for promoting friendship and for building peace and security;
- **NGOs**: to realize projects that demonstrate the potential of sport for development and peace; transfer experience and knowledge; and engage other members of civil society;
- **Private sector/sports industry**: to take an active role in addressing social and environmental impacts in business operations and across supply chains; and support and invest in sport-based development activities;
- **Research institutions**: to develop collaborative research agendas including the documentation, analysis and validation of experiences; and development of monitoring and evaluation methods and instruments;
- **Media**: to adopt editorial strategies that ensure the coverage of social and political aspects of...
sport; train journalists; and raise awareness of the possibilities of sport for development and peace.

109. The International Year has seen many positive actions undertaken globally and all stakeholders are encouraged to continue the impetus and to engage in a dialogue on visions, goals and frames of action; and participate and invest in the consolidation and expansion of global partnerships for sport and development.

110. The commemoration of the Year has shown that the recommendations made in General Assembly resolution 60/9 of 17 January 2006 remain valid and must continue to be followed. Member States are invited to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Office of Sport for Development and Peace; and that Governments and international sports bodies assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sports programmes.

111. Member States, the United Nations system, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations are invited to promote further sport and physical education, including assistance for the building and restoration of sports infrastructures, the implementation of partnership initiatives and development projects, as a contribution towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the broader aims of development and peace.

112. An action plan will be elaborated in 2006, as requested in General Assembly resolution 60/9, that will expand and strengthen preceding documents such as the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace, the United Nations Communications Group business plan, conference outcome documents and research and initiatives undertaken globally by all stakeholders. This will be done on the basis of an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace. The International Year has made it clearly apparent that a common vision and framework for action are necessary to achieve the goal of building a global multi-stakeholder partnership around sport and physical education for education, health, development and peace.